Major

Dhyand Chand

The Wizard

"You are doubtless aware that I am a common man, and then a soldier. It has been my training from my very childhood to avoid limelight and publicity."

<<< Dhyan Chand

Dhyan Chand scoring a goal against Germany in the 1936 Olympic Hockey Final.

Department of Physical Education and Sports

Dr. M.G.R.
EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY
University with Graded Autonomy Status
(An ISO 21001 : 2018 Certified Institution)
Periyar E.V.R. High Road, Maduravoyal, Chennai-95. Tamilnadu, India.

INDIA

Dhyan Chand

The Wizard

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"He scores goals like runs in cricket."

<< Sir Donald Bradman

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FOREWORD

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He is known as one of the greatest hockey players in the history of international hockey – *'The Wizard'*; also, known as 'hockey magician' for his brilliant and superb ball control. Also, he would have weaved the length of the pitch to score, leaving the defenders trailing in his wake. In all three Olympic Gold Medals Hockey matches – 1928, 1932 & 1936 – he played and in 1936 he led the Indian side as a captain.

In 1926, the Indian Army Hockey team went to New Zealand and this was the first Indian team to represent India abroad in any sport. India played 21 matches [won 18, drew 2 and lost 1], by scoring 192 goals while conceding only 24 goals. Dhyan Chand scored over 100 goals and got recognized as a most popular player.

Indians settled in East Africa requested the Indian Hockey Federation [IHF] to send an Indian Hockey team on a tour and also, insisted that Dhyan Chand had to be included in the Team. In 1947 an Indian Hockey team went to Kenya and played 28 matches and also, won all matches. Even at the age of 43, Dhyan Chand played splendidly by scoring 61 goals in 22 matches. Again, as the manager of the Indian XI, he visited Kenya in 1963-64 after Kenya had attained its independence. India played 21 matches [won 18, drew 2 and lost 1], by

scoring 192 goals while conceding only 24 goals. Dhyan Chand scored over 100 goals and got recognized as a most popular player.

Major-General A. A. Rudra wrote in his Foreword to the book – *GOAL: Autobiography of Hockey Wizard Dhyan Chand*, Published by Sport & Pastime, Chennai, 1952 -

"I was present at the match in which Dhyan Chand earned the name "The Wizard". It was the final of the Punjab Infantry tournament in Jhelum. His side was losing the match by two goals, and with only four minutes to go, his Commanding Officer called out to him, "Come on Dhyan! Do something about it."

Dhyan Chand then proceeded to do something about it, and scored three goals in four minutes and led his side to victory."

Please visit to read his Autobiography mentioned above:
http://www.bharatiyahockey.org/granthalaya/goal/

"**Major DHYAN CHAND: The Wizard**" is a publication of the department of Physical Education and Sports. An innovative and serious attempt is made to capture the wizardly three-dimensional picture [720°] of his magical skill.

The Chapter – 'India in 1936 Olympics' – provides the complete details from the preliminary round to the final and also, countries participated, list of Indian players, Indian players participated in the Final match against Germany and the mood of the Indian team on the day of final match. The Chapter – 'Brief history of Indian Hockey in Olympics' – briefly narrates the Indian team's role in 12 Olympics [1928 – 2021]. Readers could get the details of Dhyan Chand's meeting with Hitler in the Chapter 'Dhyan Chand meets Hitter'.

Another Chapter "4 Hat-tricks in Olympics" narrates the details of six consecutive wins [1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952 and 1956] with the photographs of all six winning Indian teams. In the Chapter "Golden Olympic Moments', all the informative details with the pictures of Indian teams winning 8 Olympic Gold medals, their travel plans to the

destination, names of Indian players, news reports, etc have been meticulously collected and provided.

Another special and interesting feature of the book is that it contains a Chapter [GOAL – Autobiography written by Dhyan Chand] which provides some important incidents in his life and the list of chapters in the book. Also, the web link of this book is given. It is highly recommended that readers must read his autobiography to understand him and get some holistic picture of hockey magician.

As it is very difficult to provide the entire picture of his life, skills and other details in a single book, several appropriate web links are indicated in the relevant chapters to enable the readers to visit these links to know much more about Dhyan Chand.

One can see his skills in pictures, as the Chapter 'Goals – Dhyan Chand' provides a list of highly selected interesting photos of him scoring in international matches. The book contains two chapters detailing the important and interesting information about his roles in two international tours – New Zealand and East Africa.

I do hope that the book would be a great resource to the contemporary young generation, especially hockey lovers. I appreciate the authors for their sincere and serious attempt in bringing out a good book.

Some people call Dhyan Chand the Don Bradman of hockey; but it is preferable to call Don Bradman the Dhyan Chand of cricket. Don Bradman has been compared with other cricket players. But Dhyan Chand cannot be compared with any other hockey player.

Finally let me quote:

"He scores goals like runs in cricket."

<<< **Sir Don Bradman**

Why he is considered as 'Wizard' or a 'magician in hocket'? Because, nobody is able to know, understand, study or judge his talents! Also, it is well known that no opponent player could take the ball from him unless he is fouled.

Often referred to as "The Wizard" for his incredible hockey skills like ball control and exceptional goal-scoring abilities, Dhyan scored over 400 goals in his career from 1926 to 1948. He earned the nickname "Chand" as he practised his sport with utmost dedication at night after his regular daytime tasks were over.

A legend of Indian hockey, Dhyan Chand is considered to be one of the best players to have ever played the sport. Star of the Indian hockey team that dominated the sport in the years before World War II, the prolific Dhyan Chand played a key role in India's three consecutive gold hauls at the Olympic Games - in 1928, 1932 and 1936. In 1928, India won the gold medal without conceding a single goal. With three Olympic gold medals, he was the poster boy of Indian hockey for decades. Dhyan Chand's birthday is celebrated as National Sports Day in India.

Even after bidding farewell from the field, Dhyan Chand served at his best to hockey by playing and guiding the budding stars under his tutelage. He took retirement from the Indian Army as a "Major" in the year 1956 and was also honoured with the third Indian civilian award "Padma Bhushan" by the Government of India for his sincere efforts in uplifting the sport of field hockey in India. Indeed, Dhyan Chand is regarded as the shining star of the hockey world that has been followed by many of the legendary people and also by the burgeoning stars. He will always lead the heart of hockey lovers as he used to lead the field in his times with his magical stick.

In a few years, it will be a century since Major Dhyan Chand's first international hockey game which he played in 1926 and yet, there has been no Indian/International hockey player with a better field record in all these years. This goes on to show the legend that was Major Dhyan Chand.

The book, **'Dhyan Chand – The Wizard'**, makes a serious and honest attempt to bring the life, professional skill and the international achievement of him. The first chapter covers the details of 6 consecutive winning of our Indian Hockey Team in Olympics, thus achieving an unimaginable 4 hat-tricks in the history of Olympics - a rare feature which may not be attained by any country for the years to come!

The chapter – Evolution of Indian Hockey – narrates the interesting events and features of hockey in India. His profile - detailed and narrative – is given in another chapter. The fourth chapter – GOALS by Dhyan Chand – provides the detailed pictures covering the scores, both national and international. Some other interesting pictures are also available there. The number of goals scored him – both national and international – would be never matched by any hockey player. During the New Zealand and Australia tour, Dhyan Chand met Sir Donald Bradman in Melbourne, he said: **'You score goals like runs in cricket'**. A chapter containing a list of players who scored more than 100 goals and also, a list of countries where these players are located would be found more interesting.

Indian hockey the most successful team in Olympic history. Details of 12 instances where India was on the podium at the Olympic games are narrated in detail. Readers could take a journey through the achievements – winning 8 gold medals - of Indian Hockey Team.

The details of hockey final match against Germany 1936 – in the presence of Hitler – are provided in great detail, and also his meeting with Hitler is highlighted.

The tour of Indian hockey team to New Zealand and Australia are provided with some pictures, goals scored by Dhyan Chand together with the experience and achievements of our Indian team.

Honouring the wizard, the establishment of National Sports Day – on 29 August, being his birthday - by the government of India with details of its celebrations and photos would create interest among the readers. Also, they would come to know more details of Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award viz., its establishment by the government of India, the list of awardees, etc.,

Also, our Hockey team's experience and achievements in Commonwealth Games as well as Asian Games would be appreciated by the readers. Several web links, wherever necessary and appropriate, are given to enable the readers to visit these links and thus, get more information of our wizard. Authors hope that this small book would be found more useful and informative to the readers.

Dr T Bharathi
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Dr S Ramalingam
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4 Hat-tricks in Olympics

A gold-laden History

The men's team dominated the prestigious event in the early years, winning six consecutive golds from 1928 to 1956.

https://olympics.com/en/featured-news/how-indian-hockey-team-olympic-games-gold-medals

(☺) ********** (☺)

Amsterdam 1928

India won their first Olympic hockey gold in the 1928 Olympic Games at Amsterdam. The sport returned to the Olympic fold after eight years, having last been played at Antwerp 1920.

The Games saw the emergence of a certain wizard who went by the name of Dhyan Chand, though his genius was yet to be discovered. The Indian hockey legend scored 14 goals to end the event as top-scorer.

India scored 29 goals without reply across five matches and fittingly, it was Dhyan Chand's hat-trick that secured

a 3-0 victory in the final over home side, the Netherlands that gave the Indian hockey men's team its first-ever gold medal at the Games.

The India and Netherlands hockey teams pose together for a group portrait ahead of the final of the men's hockey event at the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Los Angeles 1932

The 1932 Games at Los Angeles saw several bruised egos in the Indian hockey squad as the 'Indians' and the 'Anglo-Indians' were at odds against one another with one member of the squad even refusing to wear a turban, a part of the official team attire.

Fortunately, though, the players opted to channel their frustrations on the hockey pitch, which itself was reduced to just three nations competing - India, hosts USA and Japan.

The Indian hockey team decimated the hosts 24-1 in their first game, with Roop Singh, Dhyan Chand's younger brother, scoring a scarcely believable 10 goals. Dhyan Chand scored eight.

With such fearsome form coming into the 'final', Japan stood no chance and predictably, the Indian hockey team thrashed them 11-1 to win a second consecutive Olympic gold medal.

Indian Hockey Team in 1932 Olympics.

Berlin 1936

Barefoot and without a tooth, Dhyan Chand's magic took centre stage at Berlin 1936.

Surrounded by self-doubt heading into the Berlin Olympics, the Indian team put up a great show to win its third straight Olympic gold medal in 1936.

The 1936 Games in Berlin saw the Indian hockey team bag a third Olympic gold medal and it was a fitting send-off for the then 31-year-old Dhyan Chand, who announced his retirement post the tournament and was promptly handed captaincy.

They went on yet another dominant run, scoring 30 goals and conceding none against Hungary, USA, Japan and France in the league stages and the semi-final as Dhyan Chand and Roop Singh again featured heavily in the scoring charts.

The final saw another star performance from the wizard, who scored a hat-trick, his second in Olympic finals, as the Indian hockey team beat hosts Germany 8-1 to ensure that Dhyan Chand retired with three Olympic golds to his name.

The epic conversation between Adolf Hitler and Dhyan Chand :

Hitler (while casting a glance at the sub-standard canvas shoes of Dhyan Chand): "What else do you do, when not playing hockey ?"

Dhyan Chand: "I am in the Indian Army."

Hitler: "What is your rank?"

Dhyan Chand: "I am Lance Nayak."

Hitler: "Come over to Germany. I will make you a Field Marshal."

Dhyan Chand: "India is my country and I am fine there."

Hitler: "As you like it."

Indian Hockey Team in 1936 Olympics.

London 1948

India's Olympic journey began in 1900 and the only sport where India dominated was field hockey but the point is that India was not independent back then so the team who use to win gold medals before 1947 was "British India".

With World War II leading to the cancellation of the 1940 and 1944 Olympics, the Indian hockey side saw an enforced lull of 12 years at the Games but it ensured that India returned with a fourth gold medal and their first after independence.

The event saw the emergence of a new star in Balbir Singh Sr. The striker played a starring role as the Indian hockey team beat Argentina 9-1 and Austria 8-0 before overcoming Spain 2-0 in the semi-finals.

The final pitted them against hosts Great Britain, the first time the two nations played against one another since India gained independence a year earlier, and they were greeted by a 25,000-strong capacity crowd at the iconic Wembley Stadium.

However, the Indian hockey team showed no nerves as Balbir Singh Sr scored twice to help them to a comprehensive 4-0 win. The movie 'Gold', which released last year was based on the performances of this team at London 1948.

Indian Hockey Team in 1948 Olympics with officials.

Helsinki 1952

Four years later, Balbir Singh Sr put up another heroic performance, scoring nine goals across three matches, eight of them in the semi-finals and finals, as the vice-captain of the team at Helsinki 1952.

The Indian hockey team first rolled Austria over 4-0 as the Europeans had no reply for a second-consecutive Olympics to the all-dominating team. In the semis, Great Britain managed one goal but were outdone by Balbir Singh Sr's hat-trick to go down 3-1.

India reserved their best for the last as they outdid the Netherlands 6-1 in the final, with Balbir Singh Sr scoring five goals and skipper KD Babu adding the finishing touches as the Indian hockey team reigned supreme for a fifth time at the Olympics.

Indian Hockey Team in 1952 Olympics with officials.

Melbourne 1956

The crowning glory for the Indian hockey team came at the 1956 Games in Melbourne, as it completed a second hat-trick of Olympic golds and its first as an independent country.

India started the campaign with a breezy, by their own lofty standards, 6-0 win over Singapore and more than doubled that tally in a 14-0 win over Afghanistan before going two better to annihilate USA 16-0, in their first three league matches.

They were brought down to earth somewhat by Germany in the semis as they could notch only a solitary goal to progress to the final against Pakistan. It was supposed to be a tough fixture made more difficult by the fact that Balbir Singh Sr suffered a fracture in his right hand.

However, the striker, now promoted to captain, came up with a true leader's performance, playing through the pain to help his team eventually triumph 1-0 and lift a historic sixth Olympic gold.

Indian Hockey Team in 1956 Olympics with officials.

Evolution of Indian Hockey

A brief history of Hockey in India. The game is popular not only with the players but also among spectators. Here is a glimpse of the exciting sport and its popularity over time!

Introduction

Hockey is one of the sports that evolved from prehistoric man's pleasure of stick and ball games. It is a game played on a field by two teams using curved sticks and a small hardball. It originated in Asia, and authorities attribute its invention to Persia around 2000 BC. The origins of hockey can be traced back to 5000 years ago in Egypt. Hockey as we know it today (modern hockey) originated in England. Irish hurling was the true ancestor of hockey. In 1861, the first hockey club was formed in Black-heath. England and Ireland played the first international match in 1895. Hockey was first included in the modern Olympic Games in the year 1908.

The origins of the game of hockey may be traced back to the world's earliest civilisations. The game is said to have existed around 1200 years before the Ancient Games of Olympia, making it one of the earliest known games. Everyone from Arabs to Greeks to Romans to Persians to Ethiopians played some kind of game. Even though hockey was played in various forms by many ancient civilisations, the contemporary game of hockey, field hockey, was established in the British Isles in the nineteenth century. In India, the first club was founded in Calcutta in 1885-86, and Bombay and Punjab quickly followed suit. The Indian hockey juggernaut won six consecutive Olympic gold medals and 24 successive matches from 1928 to 1956.

Hockey arrived in India via British regiments and soon became one of the most established sports in the country. Hockey was Britisher's favourite pastime after cricket. The first hockey club in India was established in Calcutta in 1885-86, and Bombay and Punjab soon followed suit. The Indian hockey team won its first Olympic gold medal without conceding a single goal in its Olympic debut at the 1928 Amsterdam Games. The magician of Indian hockey legend Dhyan Chand was the defining feature

of this resilient dominance. From 1928 to 1956, the ruthless Indian Hockey team won six consecutive Olympic gold medals while winning 25 games on the trot. During this golden phase, India managed to score 178 goals while conceding just seven.

Dominating the Olympics

The Indian hockey team clinched the Olympic gold medal in its first attempt in 1928. India played five matches, scoring 29 goals and conceding none, with Dhyan Chand scoring 14 of them.

The hockey wizard became the cornerstone of the Indian hockey team as it won two more gold medals in 1932 and 1936, completing a hat-trick of Olympic hockey golds. Dhyan Chand was made captain in 1936 in what would prove to be his final Olympic Games.

When the Olympics returned after World War II in 1948, India found a new genius in the legendary Balbir Singh Sr as he steered them to a second hat-trick of Olympic gold medals in 1948, 1952, and 1956, this time as an independent nation. The period was one of the most significant in the history of hockey in India.

While Pakistan halted the gold run in the final at the 1960 Rome Olympics, India would ascend to the top step at Tokyo 1964. However, it was apparent that India's domination of the sport was weakening.

The Indian hockey team had won silver at the 1958 and 1962 Asian Games, before finally winning gold in the 1966 edition. However, India only managed a bronze at Mexico 1968, in what was then their lowest finish in the Olympics.

Women's Team

Hockey expanded its reach beyond the Olympics with the first Hockey World Cup held in 1971 in Spain. Though Pakistan beat Spain to win the title and India finished third, the sport was steadily gaining popularity in Europe, and innovations were underway.

India did manage another bronze at the 1972 Olympics in Munich, before making the World Cup final in 1973, where they lost to the Netherlands.

While India's representation in global hockey was largely restricted to the men, the women's team made its first appearance in international competition at the inaugural women's Hockey World Cup in 1974, finishing a creditable fourth.

There seemed to be an upturn when the men's team won its only World Cup title in 1975.

But the 1976 Montreal Olympics was the first to be played on astroturf – artificial grass fields specially curated for the sport - and the men's Indian hockey team finished seventh.

It ended India's Olympic podium run for the first time while the women's team mustered a similar finish at the 1978 World Cup.

In this decade, the men's team also ended up with three consecutive Asian Games silver medals in 1970, 1974, and 1978.

Period of Stagnation

The 1980s actually began well for the Indian hockey teams.

The men's team took advantage of a depleted field to win their eighth Olympic gold at Moscow 1980 while the women's team finished fourth in what was the first edition of women's hockey at the Olympics.

At the **1982 Asian Games** in New Delhi, where women's hockey was played for the first time, the women's Indian hockey team clinched a historic gold at home while the men's team won silver.

However, there were no more accolades forthcoming after this period.

India was slow to take to the astroturfs, with local players still mostly playing on natural grass fields, which meant that the Indian hockey teams fell short at global events.

Neither the men nor the women were able to make the semi-finals at the World Cups or the (only men's) Champions Trophy, with their medals restricted to a bronze each at the 1986 Asian Games.

Dhanraj Pillay's debut for the Indian hockey team in 1989 breathed new life into the sport as India boasted of a global superstar once more.

However, without adequate support, Pillay was unable to inspire a wave of success for the Indian hockey team, though he almost single-handedly ended India's Asian Games gold drought with a stellar individual campaign in 1998.

The women also continued to struggle globally through this period, though they won silver at the 1998 Asian Games.

The introduction of hockey at the Commonwealth Games in 1998 provided another platform for global hockey. The Indian men's and women's teams finished fourth in the inaugural edition.

The women's Indian hockey team then went on to win gold at the 2002 Commonwealth Games, an edition where the men were unable to qualify. The women then won silver in the 2006 edition, as the men could only manage sixth place, and bronze at the 2006 Asian Games.

The decline of Indian hockey hit rock bottom in 2008 when the men's team, for the first time since 1928, failed to qualify for the Beijing Olympics.

Revival of Indian Hockey

After the disappointment of 2008, the men's Indian hockey team responded by returning to the podium at the 2010 Commonwealth Games, winning silver and the 2010 Asian Games, where they won bronze.

The men's Indian hockey team qualified for the 2012 London Olympics. Though India ended last, it represented a small bit of progress.

The men also qualified for Rio 2016 but this time, it was the women who stole the spotlight as they qualified for their first Olympic Games in 36 years.

In the years since, Indian hockey seems to have found its feet again.

The women's team, led by **Rani Rampal**, won silver at the 2018 Asian Games, achieving their best ranking of ninth in the world the same year.

The men's Indian hockey team has imbibed an attacking philosophy under new head coach **Graham Reid** and young captain **Manpreet Singh**.

The men's team played its first **FIH Pro League** campaign in 2020, winning games against the best in the world like Belgium, Australia and the Netherlands.

At Tokyo 2020, the men's hockey team ended a 41-year Olympic medal drought with a bronze medal after a thrilling win against Germany in the playoff.

The women's team, in only its third Olympic appearance, showed tremendous grit to finish fourth, narrowly losing out on the bronze medal to Great Britain.

India women also achieved one of their most famous victories when they knocked out favourites Australia in the quarter-finals

Both the men's and women's teams are formidable contenders on the global stage and Indian hockey is now in a position to reclaim the glory of old.

A Journey of Indian Hockey

Introduction

The history of hockey in India dates back to the rule of British regiments in India. Calcutta was the first city to organise a hockey club in 1885-86, followed by Bombay and Punjab. In 1908, the Bengal Hockey Association became India's first hockey association. As the game grew popular, organisations sprung up in places like Bombay, Bihar, Orissa, and Delhi.

In the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, India won the gold medal in hockey for the first time. For the fifth time in a row, India has won the Olympic Hockey Championship. The Indian Hockey Federation gained a name and reputation due to India's first Olympic entry in hockey, which ended in triumph. The best Indian hockey players were Dhyan Chand, Allen, Norris, Pinniger, Yusuf Gateley, and Cullen.

Women in India have also taken up hockey. The Asiad 82 has been expanded to include women's hockey. Their level of play is pretty high. A series of coaching camps have aided the athletes in reaching a noteworthy level of performance.

Indian Hockey in International Fields

Indian hockey's outstanding accomplishments at the Olympic Games were a source of national pride. The Indian hockey team competed in 1928 when they won the country's first Olympic gold medal. The Indian Hockey Team won six Olympic gold medals between 1928 and 1956, winning 24 consecutive matches and scoring 178 goals while surrendering only seven in their half. This period in Indian hockey is regarded as the game's golden age. The winning streak of Indian hockey ended in the 1960 Olympics in Rome. The squad subsequently lost 0-1 in the finals versus the Pakistan Hockey team.

The Indian hockey team earned a gold medal in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics and many bronze medals in the 1980 Moscow Olympics. The Indian hockey team's performance at the Olympic Games continued to worsen after 1980, resulting in the team's failure to win any medals.

In 1975, the Indian Men's Hockey team won the Hockey World Cup in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Indian women's hockey team won gold in the Commonwealth Games in Manchester, England in 2002.

History Of Indian Hockey In The Olympics

1928 Amsterdam Olympics

In 1928, India competed in the Olympics for the first time as British India. Only three officials from the Indian Hockey Federation went to the Bombay port to see them off since no one expected them to arrive, but hundreds of people greeted them when they did. This championship included nine teams, with India placed in Group A with Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland, and Austria. Dhyan Chand, a national hero who is still remembered, was the standout of India's campaign, scoring 14 of the country's 29 goals. His hat-trick against finalist Holland holds a particular position in Indian history, as it was the first time the country won an Olympic gold medal.

1932 Los Angeles Olympics

The journey from India to Los Angeles took 42 days by the water. Only three teams were competing, and India had set a new hockey record by scoring 35 goals against both the United States and Japan. In their first encounter, India defeated Japan 11-1, but the team's most memorable moment occurred when they trounced the host USA 24-1. India won both matches against the United States and Japan, making them the Olympic champions for the second time in a row.

1936 Berlin Olympics

Dhyan Chand led the Indian team to victory in the Olympics. In an eight-team tournament, India was selected in Group A alongside Hungary, the United States, and Japan. India scored 20 goals against their group stage opponents without surrendering a single goal. Then, in the semi-final, India crushed France 10-0, setting up a final match against Germany. India won the final with an 8-1 score over Germany's hosts. But it was at the Olympics, Hitler saw Dhyan Chand's abilities and gave him German citizenship.

1948 London Olympics

This was the first Olympics following the cancellation of the 1940 and 1944 Olympics due to World War II. The Indian Hockey team 1948 was competing as free India and an independent state for the first time. The final was played in front of a massive audience of 25000 people at Wembley Stadium. India defeated Great Britain 4-0 to earn their fourth straight gold medal and the first gold medal for independent India.

1952 Helsinki Olympics

This Olympics featured 13 teams competing in a knockout format. India had a bye in the first round and faced Austria in the quarterfinals. The Indian team cruised into the final, where the Netherlands met them. India overcame the Netherlands and won its sixth gold medal in the Olympics in a row. India's Balbir Singh scored 9 of the team's 13 goals, and Captain Digvijay Singh was awarded the titles of 'Best athlete of Asia' and 'Best hockey player in the world.'

1956 Melbourne Olympics

Balbir Singh Sr, Leslie Claudius, Randhir Singh Gentle, and Ranganathan Francis were among the Indian hockey contingent for the Olympics, competing in their third Olympics. There were 12 teams, separated into three groups for this competition. India scored 36 goals in their group stage matches, resulting in a Semi-final encounter against Germany, which India won by a narrow 1-0 margin. Then, in the finals, India faced up against Pakistan, its arch-rival. The finals were held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), where India won their sixth gold medal in a row by defeating Pakistan 1-0.

1960 Rome Olympics

Due to the retirement of Balbir Singh Sr from hockey, Leslie Claudius captained the team in his fourth Olympics. In the group rounds, India was pitted against Denmark, the Netherlands, and New Zealand, which they easily defeated and advanced to the knockout stages. In the semi-final, India narrowly defeated Great Britain, with a goal from Udham Singh making the difference. Pakistan was India's final opponent again, but this time they had eight of its eleven players who had previously played against India in the 1956 Olympics final. India was shocked to lose 0-1 to Pakistan in the final, ending their gold-medal winning streak.

1964 Tokyo Olympics

With memories of losses to Pakistan in the 1960 Olympics and the 1962 Asia Cup, India was motivated to capture a gold medal here. The squad's captain, Charanjit Singh, guided the team to the finals with ease. India faced Pakistan in what was seen as a brutal final, with players from both teams playing so aggressively that officials were forced to intervene. India

earned its seventh gold medal by beating Pakistan in the final, owing to Mohinder Lal's penalty conversion, which was the game's lone goal.

1968 Mexico Olympics

Hockey was gaining popularity in both Europe and Asia. In the group stage match, India was defeated by New Zealand, which was India's first loss in the Olympics group stage. When India fell to Australia in the semi-finals, it was the first time India did not make it to the finals in the eighth Olympics. Despite this, India went on to win a bronze medal in the third-place play-off, defeating West Germany 2-1.

1972 Munich Olympics

This squad consisted of only four participants from the 1968 Olympics. The team's captain was Harmek Singh. This squad also included Vece Paes, Leander Paes' father. India was undefeated in the group stage, which had seven teams. When the Israeli team was assaulted, the game was suspended for two days, and India was due to meet Pakistan in the semi-final. The next day, India lost in the semi-final against Pakistan, and it is thought that the tragedy disrupted India's rhythm. They won bronze after defeating Holland 2-1 in the third-place play-off.

1976 Montreal Olympics

When astroturf was initially utilised as a pitch in field hockey games, the game's playing surface changed. With three wins and two defeats in the group rounds, India and Australia were equal for second place, forcing a play-off match between them to determine the group's second-place team. Australia advanced to the semi-finals after defeating India in the play-off. India was eliminated from medal contention for the first time in 58 years, finishing in seventh place.

1980 Moscow Olympics

Following bronze medal finishes in 1968 and 1972 and the much more stunning 1976 Olympics, India made a great comeback in this Olympics. After nine teams withdrew, the Olympics were reduced to a six-team tournament. With ease, India cruised to the finals, setting up a showdown with Spain in the final. India won their seventh gold medal in the Olympics after defeating Spain 4-3 in the final. Unfortunately, this was India's final Olympic medal in hockey. The Indian women's team competed in their first Olympics and finished fourth.

1984 Los Angeles Olympics

A total of 12 countries competed in the Olympic tournament. India was grouped with Australia, West Germany, Spain, Malaysia, and the United States in Group A. India only lost to Australia in the group rounds, and the must-win game against West Germany resulted in a tie, knocking India out of the semi-finals. India went on to win two more classification matches, putting them in fifth place overall.

1988 Seoul Olympics

Following disappointing performances in the 1986 World Cup and other events, the Indian squad went to the 1988 Olympics with a slew of issues, including selection, captaincy, and so on. Pargat Singh was appointed captain of the team, which angered the seniors because it was his first Olympics. With India losing 0-1 to Russia and drawing 1-1 with Germany in the next encounter, the off-field issues were abundantly visible. After losing to Pakistan, India was put in the 5-8 classification matches and finished sixth.

1992 Barcelona Olympics

It was a 12-team competition at the game. India was grouped with Argentina, Egypt, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Only two of India's matches were won, against Argentina and Egypt. As a result, India was relegated to the 5-8 classification matches, where they finished seventh.

1996 Atlanta Olympics

Spain, Germany, Pakistan, Argentina, and the United States were placed with India. Only two matches, against Spain and the United States, were won by India. India competed in the 5-8 classification matches for the fourth consecutive Olympics, where they ended eighth after losing both matches.

2000 Sydney Olympics

India was placed alongside Australia, South Korea, Argentina, Poland, and Spain in Group B. India finished third despite two victories and two draws, relegating them to the 5-8 classification rounds. India lost to Great Britain in a classification match but won against Argentina, putting them in seventh place.

2004 Athens Olympics

Dhanraj Pillay competed in his fourth Olympics at the age of 35. The Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Argentina were placed with India. India only won one of its five league matches, finishing fourth in the group. In the 5-8 classification match, India defeated Korea and finished in seventh place.

2008 Beijing Olympics

India failed to qualify for the Olympics for the first time in 88 years. Great Britain in the final of the World hockey Olympic qualification event held in Santiago, Chile. From the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics until the 2004 Athens Olympics, India's hockey record of 18 appearances at the Olympics was shattered.

2012 London Olympics

The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, South Korea, New Zealand, and India were all placed in Group B. After failing to win a single game throughout the tournament, India placed bottom in the group. India defeated South Africa 2-3 in the 11-12 classification games, culminating in India's lowest finish at the Olympics.

2016 Rio Olympics

Men

This Olympics featured a new structure in which the top four teams from each group qualified to compete in the knockout rounds. India was paired with Germany, the Netherlands, Argentina, Ireland, and Canada on the list. Only two of India's matches against Ireland and Argentina were won, and they finished fourth in their group. India's fourth-place finish earned them a quarter-final match against Belgium, which they lost 1-3. India came in eighth place overall in the event.

Women

The Indian women qualified for the Olympics for the second time, the first being in 1980. The Indian women's squad was pitted against the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia, Argentina, and Japan. India failed

to win a single match and finished bottom in both the group and the tournament.

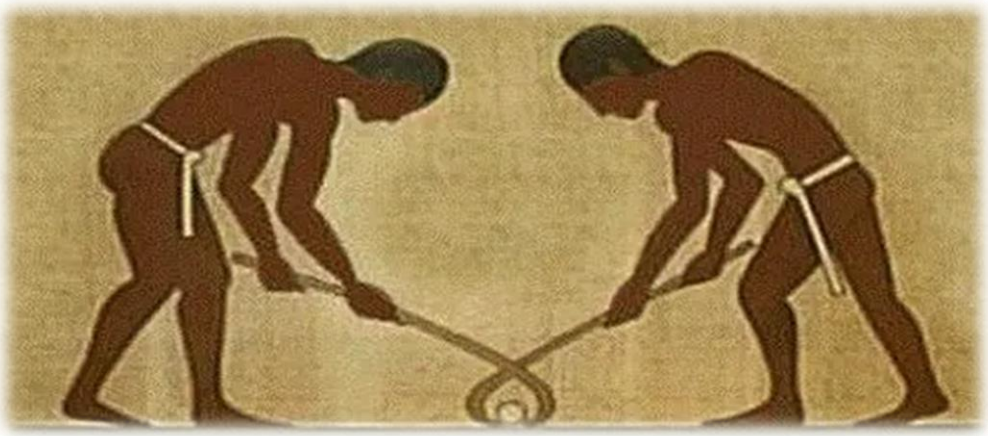
2021 Tokyo Olympics

Men

After leading the Indian men's hockey team to a bronze medal triumph at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo, the squad players inscribed their names in history. India had to defeat Germany in a dramatic, exhilarating, and challenging match that went down to the wire. Despite being behind twice throughout the match, India managed to pull off a miraculous comeback 5-4 victory to beat Germany and finish on the podium.

Women

The Indian women's hockey team was denied a medal at the Tokyo Olympics after losing to the Rio Olympics gold champion Great Britain in the bronze medal match. However, coach Sjoerd Marijne's squad may be proud of their fourth-place performance at the Tokyo Olympics, which was their best-ever finish in Olympic history (while India had also finished fourth in 1980, only six teams competed the Moscow Games in a round-robin format).



Most gold medals at Olympics field hockey (MEN)

India	8 (1928, 1932, 1936, 1948, 1952, 1956, 1964, 1980)
Germany*	4 (1972, 1992, 2008, 2012)
Pakistan	3 (1960, 1968, 1984)
Great Britain	3 (1908*, 1920, 1988)
Netherlands	2 (1996, 2000)
Australia	1 (2004)
New Zealand	1 (1976)
Argentina	1 (2016)

India's field hockey medals at Olympic Games

Venue	Year	Medal	Captain
Amsterdam	1928	Gold	Jaipal Singh
Los Angeles	1932	Gold	Lal Shah Bokhari
Berlin	1936	Gold	Dhyan Chand
London	1948	Gold	Kishan Lal

Venue	Year	Medal	Captain
Helsinki	1952	Gold	KD Singh ‘Babu’
Melbourne	1956	Gold	Balbir Singh Sr
Rome	1960	Silver	Leslie Claudius
Tokyo	1964	Gold	Charanjit Singh
Mexico	1968	Bronze	Prithipal Singh Gurbux Singh
Munich	1972	Bronze	Harmik Singh
Moscow	1980	Gold	Vasudevan Baskaran
Tokyo	2021	Bronze	Manpreet Singh

Indian hockey’s GOLDEN streak at the Olympics Games:

1928: Played 5, won 5 (29 scored, 0 conceded)
1932: Played 2, won 2 (35 scored, 2 conceded)
1936: Played 5, won 5 (38 scored, 1 conceded)
1948: Played 5, won 5 (25 scored, 2 conceded)
1952: Played 3, won 3 (13 scored, 2 conceded)
1956: Played 5, won 5 (38 scored, 0 conceded)

****

Indian Teams in Olympics

1928: Jaipal Singh (C Richard Allen, Dhyan Chand, Maurice Gateley, William Goodsir-Cullen, Leslie Hammond, Feroz Khan, George Marthins, Rex Norris, Broome Penniger (VC), Michael Rocque, Frederic Seaman, Ali Shaukat, Sayed Yusuf, Kher Singh Gill and Nawab of Pataudi.
1932: Lal Shah Bokhari (C) Richard Allen, Muhammad Aslam, Frank Brewin, Richard Carr, Dhyan Chand, Leslie Hammond, Arthur Hind, Sayed Jaffar, Masud Minhas, Broome Penniger, Gurmit Singh Kullar, Roop Singh, William Sullivan and Carlyle Tapsell
1936: Dhyan Chand (C) Richard Allen, Ali Dara, Lionel Emmett, Peter Fernandes, Joseph Galibardy, Earnest Goodsir-Cullen, Mohammed Hussain, Sayed Jaffar (VC), Ahmed Sher Khan, Ahsan Khan, Mirza Masood, Cyril Michie, Baboo Nimal, Joseph Phillips, Shabban Shahab-ud-Din, G.S. Garewal, Roop Singh and Carlyle Tapsell.
1948: Kishan Lal (C) Leslie Claudius, Keshav Dutt, Walter D'Souza, Lawrie Fernandes, Ranganathan Francis, Gerry Glacken, Akhtar Hussain, Patrick Jansen, Amir Kumar, Leo Pinto, Jaswant Singh Rajput, Latif-ur-Rehman, Reginald Rodrigues, Balbir Singh Sr., Randhir Singh Gentle, Grahanandan Singh, K. D. Singh Babu (VC), Trilochan Singh and Maxie Vaz.
1952: K. D. Singh Babu (C) Leslie Claudius, Meldric Daluz, Keshav Dutt, Chinadorai Deshmutu, Ranganathan Francis, Raghbir Lal, Govind Perumal, Muniswamy Rajgopal, Balbir Singh Sr., Randhir Singh Gentle, Udham Singh, Swarup Singh, Jaswant Singh, C.S. Dubey, C.S. Gurung, Dharam Singh and Grahanandan Singh.
1956: Balbir Singh Sr.(C) Leslie Claudius, Ranganathan Francis, Haripal Kaushik, Amir Kumar, Raghbir Lal, Shankar Lakshman, Govind Perumal, Amit Singh Bakshi, Raghbir Singh Bhola, Hardyal Singh Garchey, Randhir Singh Gentle, Balkishan Singh Grewal, Gurdev Singh Kullar, Udham Singh Kullar, Bakshish Singh, O.P. Malhotra and Charles Stephen.

Some important web-links:

01] https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-field-hockey-history-legacy-olympics-world-cup-dhyan-chand-balbir

02] https://blog.decathlon.in/articles/history-of-hockey-in-india#article-body

03] https://thesportsschool.com/the-evolution-of-hockey-in-india/

04] https://www.iloveindia.com/sports/hockey/history.html

05] https://www.kreedon.com/history-of-hockey-in-india/?amp

06] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Hockey_Federation

07] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_hockey

08] https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-hockey-player-dhyan-chand-selling-autographs-beighton-don-bradman

09] https://scroll.in/field/994344/pause-rewind-play-1928-1956-a-brief-history-of-indian-hockeys-golden-era-at-the-olympics

10] https://www.hockeyindia.org/national-team/india-women-profile-11

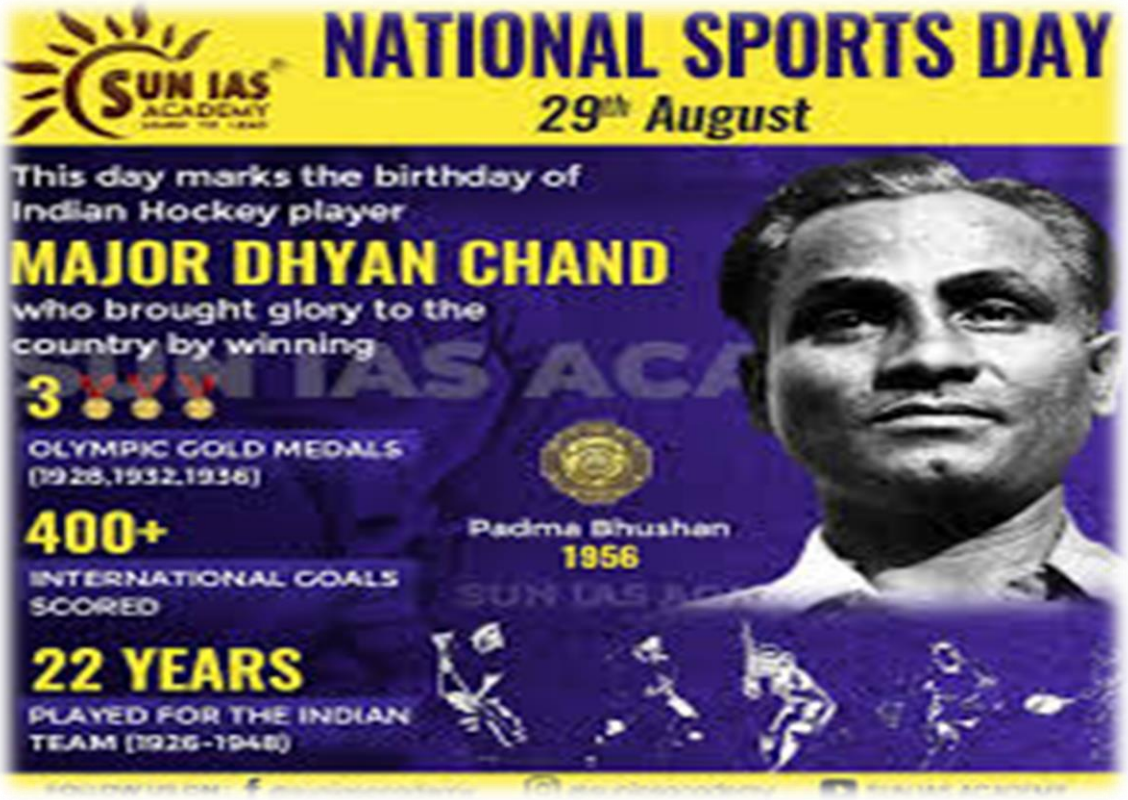
11] https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-hockey-players-best-dhyan-chand-balbir-singh-dhanraj-pillay-sreejesh

12] https://starsunfolded.com/dhyan-chand/

13] https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-hockey-team-players-berlin-1936-olympics-gold-medal-dhyan-chand

Profile

Dhyan Chand



Please visit to know his Biography
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Uj22l6RP0E
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M9jtV6C4t9s
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MFBCmce34Lc

Life

Dhyan Chand was born in Allahabad to Sameshwar Dutt Singh on 29th August, 1905. His father was in the British Indian army where he played hockey. Dhyan Chand loved to wrestle as a youngster though

he was not much inclined towards other sports. At the age of 16 Dhyan Chand joined the army and started playing hockey seriously during his army stint, often practicing late in the night after duty hours.Due to his skills he was selected to play in the Indian Army Team which was to tour New Zealand in 1926.Dhyan Chand played a monumental role in India winning 3 successive Olympic hockey gold medals (in 1928, 1932 and 1936).

He was made the captain of the Indian hockey team in 1934 and subsequently captained the gold winning team at the Berlin Olympics in 1936. At the Berlin Olympics, Hitler was so impressed with his play that he offered to make him colonel in the German army, if he agreed to play for Germany. At the age of 43, he led the hockey team to the tour of East Africa in 1947. In this tour Dhyan Chand scored 61 goals in 21 matches that India played. Dhyan Chand bid adieu to international hockey in 1949. He retired as Major and was also the Chief Hockey Coach at the National Institute of Sports. Over his sporting career he had scored more than 1,000 goals out of which 400 were international ones. For his extraordinary achievements, the Indian government awarded him the Padma Bhusan in 1956. On Dec 3, 1979 this hockey legend passed away. A statue of this hockey legend with four hands and four sticks was erected in Vienna depicting his master control over the ball. His birthday, 29 August, is celebrated as National Sports Day in India every year.

Career

- He joined the Indian Army when he was just 16. He started playing hockey seriously during his army stint, often practicing late in the night after duty hours.
- He was a good player and from 1922 started playing in army hockey tournaments. Due to his skills he was selected to play in the Indian Army Team which was to tour New Zealand in 1926.

- His team won 18 matches out of 21 in the tournament and Dhyan Chand was greatly appreciated for his performances. He was promoted to Lance Naik upon his return to India.
- Field hockey was reintroduced in the 1928 Amsterdam Olympics and the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) wanted to send its best team for the event. Dhyan Chand with his great performance in the inaugural nationals secured a place in the team.
- The Indian team went to Amsterdam and beat the Dutch, German and Belgian teams in the pre-Olympic matches by huge margins. Chand scored three goals in India's debut Olympic match against Austria, winning 6-0.
- India also won the matches against Belgium, Denmark and Switzerland on their way to the finals.
- In the final match held on 26 May 1928, India faced the home team of Netherlands. Some of the India's top players were on the sick list and India's chances looked bleak. However, the team still managed to beat Netherlands 3-0 and India won her first Olympic gold medal.
- Dhyan Chand emerged as the hero of the 1928 Olympics by scoring 14 goals in five matches.
- For the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics, Dhyan Chand was automatically selected to the Indian hockey team while the rest of the team mates had to play in the Inter-Provincial tournament to earn their places. His brother Roop Singh also secured a place in the team.
- India's first match in the 1932 Olympics was against Japan which it won 11-1. It proved to be a good omen as India went on to win many other matches before triumphing in the finals to clinch the gold once again.
- After the Olympics the team went on an international tour covering United States, England and several other countries. By the end of the tour, India had won 34 matches out of 37 with Chand scoring 133 of the 338 goals scored by India.

- He was made the captain of the Indian hockey team in 1934 and he led the team to the 1936 Berlin Olympics. There too he worked his magic and team win the gold medal – India's third successive gold in field hockey.
  - He continued playing hockey till the late 1940s and retired from army as a Major in 1956. He became a coach after his retirement.

'You score goals like runs in cricket'

<<< Sir Donald Bradman [Left]

Brief Profile

Introduction:

A legend of Indian hockey, Dhyan Chand is considered to be one of the best players to have ever played the sport.

Star of the Indian hockey team that dominated the sport in the years before World War II, the prolific Dhyan Chand played a key role in India's three consecutive gold hauls at the Olympic Games - in 1928, 1932 and 1936.

Such was Dhyan Chand's mastery of the game and so dazzling was his ball control that he earned the epithets 'Hockey Wizard' and 'The Magician.

Dhyan Chand started playing hockey seriously during his stint with the British Indian Army and between 1922 and 1926, he competed in numerous army hockey tournaments and regimental games.

Born Dhyan Singh in Allahabad, he was called 'Chand' - moon in Hindi - by his peers because he would often practise at night under the moonlight after his duty hours.

He had impressed observers of the game during his days in the army and when the newly-formed Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) decided to send a team for the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam, Dhyan Chand was called for the trials.

He made it to the Olympic team and hit the ground running. Dhyan Chand scored 14 goals in five matches to become the top-scorer of the tournament, nine more than the next best, with the Indian hockey team emerging undefeated to win the gold medal.

No trials were needed for Dhyan Chand when the Indian team for the 1932 Olympics was selected and this time the squad included his brother Roop Singh as well.

At the Los Angeles Games, the Indian field hockey player scored 12 goals in only two games and was outdone only by his brother, who had 13 to his name.

In that edition, the Indian hockey team scored 24 goals in a match - a record that stood firmly for seven decades - against the USA, 10 off Roop Singh's stick and eight from Dhyan Chand.

In the subsequent 1936 Olympic Games, Dhyan Chand headed to Berlin as captain of the Indian hockey team.

Inspired by their skipper, India dominated again as they remained undefeated to claim the gold medal, upstaging hosts Germany 8-1 in the final.

Dhyan Chand led from the front in the summit clash with three goals of his own even though he broke a tooth after the opposition resorted to rough tactics to contain him. He also reportedly played barefoot in the second half of the match to up his pace on the field.

He ended the Berlin Games with a total of 11 goals in five matches. In all, he scored 37 goals in 12 matches at the Games across three editions and three Olympic gold medals.

With World War II breaking out soon after, Dhyan Chand was in his forties by the time an independent Indian hockey team participated in the next Olympic Games in 1948. This time, he wasn't a part of the squad.

Dhyan Chand retired from the Indian Army as a lieutenant in August 1956, after 34 years of service, and was consequently honoured with the Padma Bhushan award, India's third-highest civilian honour.

While the Gazette of India recognises Dhyan Chand as a lieutenant when he retired, he is generally stated as 'Wizard Major' Dhyan Chand in India. His birthday, August 29, is also celebrated as National Sports Day in India.

"Dhyan Chand has the same aura attached to hockey, like Donald Bradman has in cricket," former Olympian Gurbux Singh told Rediff.com.

Dhyan Chand passed away on December 3, 1979. succumbing to liver cancer but will always be remembered as one of the greatest hockey players.

Dhyan Chand we didn't know

Regarded as the wizard on the field, Dhyan Chand's contribution to the world of hockey is well known.

Be it his first taste of the game at the Army barracks as a teenager or his mesmerising performances at the three Olympic Games - 1928, 1932 and 1936 - Dhyan Chand has been at the forefront of hockey's renaissance in India.

As the nation commemorates Saturday the hockey great's birth anniversary with the National Sports Day, here's a look at some of the lesser-known facts about the hockey great.

(1) Fund Raiser

Quetta (now in Pakistan) was the epicentre of a devastating earthquake that reportedly killed over 50,000 people in 1935.

With India - then an English colony - stretched for help, Dhyan Chand took it upon himself to raise some much-needed funds in his own way.

DAK EDITION

The Civil & Military Gazette.

QUETTA EARTHQUAKE HAVOC

TOWN REDUCED TO RUINS

43 Airmen Among 1,000 Dead

SERIOUS BREAKDOWN OF COMMUNICATIONS

JUBILEE TRUST FUND

£1,000,000 Mark in Sight

JAPAN WARNS CHINA

Tired of "Insincerity and Double-dealing"

LATE NEWS

QUETTA — LATEST

GRAN CHACO WAR

Bolivia Agrees to Accept Armistice

DOMINIONS AND IMPERIAL DEFENCE

MAHARAJA OF BARODA

FINEST HONEYCOMB SPONGES

Specially Selected Shapes from Rs. 2-12 each.

Smith & Campbell

Pharmaceutical Chemists, Lahore.

(2) Meeting Sir Don Bradman

On the tour of Australia and New Zealand ahead of the 1936 Olympics, the then Indian hockey captain, Dhyan Chand, resorted to selling his autographs to fans as a part of his fundraiser for the earthquake victims. Vice-captain MN Masud joined him in this noble cause.

The Indian hockey team's tour Down Under was special for Dhyan Chand in more than one way.

While it proved to be a perfect tune-up ahead of the Berlin 1936 Olympics, the team also ended up meeting the legendary Australian batsman Sir Donald Bradman in Adelaide.

Seeing the hockey wizard in action, the cricket great couldn't stop praising Dhyan Chand. "You score goals like runs in cricket," Don Bradman had famously said.

"I am particularly glad to welcome the Indian players as they are better exponents of the game of hockey than we are," the prolific batsman added. "We will have the opportunity of learning something from them. I hope that this visit will be the forerunner of a visit from an **Indian cricket team**."

While India started playing Test cricket in 1932, their first visit to Australia was their tour in 1947-48. Don Bradman scored 715 runs in that series, at an average of 178.75.

(3) Beighton Cup

While Dhyan Chand delighted the world with his skills, closer home the Beighton Cup in Calcutta reserved a special place in his heart.

During its golden period, the Beighton Cup and the Aga Khan Tournament (in Bombay) were the lifelines of Indian hockey.

Every player aspiring to make it big in hockey eyed these competitions as a perfect platform to impress men who mattered. And it was no different for Dhyan Chand.

"I had always regarded this competition (Beighton Cup) as the blue riband of Indian hockey. In my opinion, it is perhaps the best-organised hockey event in the country," Dhyan Chand wrote about the competition in his autobiography, Goal.

(4) London Tube Network

While a commemorative postal stamp and a statue outside the national hockey stadium in New Delhi are well-known dedications to the hockey wizard, not many know that ahead of the London 2012 Olympics, Dhyan Chand's name made its way to the London tube as well.

As a part of their build-up to the London Games, the organisers decided to rename the 361 train stations on the London tube network after famous Olympic personalities. This included superstars like Michael Phelps, Muhammed Ali and Jesse Owens, among others.

From India, the organisers shortlisted three names. **Dhyan Chand**, his brother **Roop Singh** and **Leslie Claudius**. While Watford Junction was

renamed after Dhyan Chand, Watford High Street took Roop Singh's name and Bushey Heath had Claudius'.

(5) Hockey Wizard playing Cricket

Dhyan Chand dabbled with cricket as well, once famously making the bowlers sweat during a friendly match at Mount Abu in 1961.

Photo: Ashok Kumar

Source:

https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-hockey-player-dhyan-chand-selling-autographs-beighton-don-bradman

GOALS <<::>> Dhyan Chand

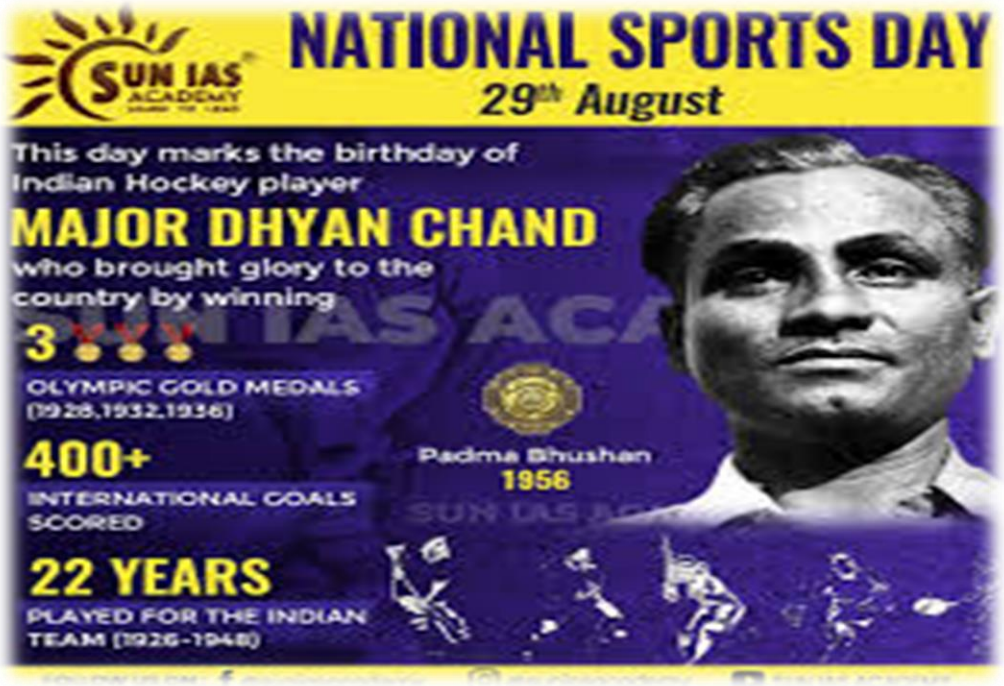
BBC called him the "hockey's equivalent of Muhammad Ali". The Government of India awarded Chand India's third highest civilian honour, the Padma Bhushan in 1956. His birthday, 29 August, is celebrated as National Sports Day in India every year. India's highest sporting honour,

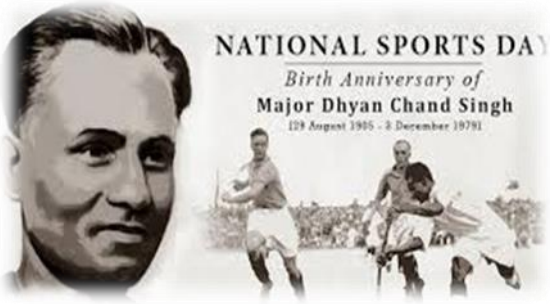
Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

is named after him.

INDIA'S TALLY IN THE 3 OLYMPICS
DHYAN CHAND PLAYED
1928
Austria 6-0
Belgium 9-0
Denmark 5-0
Switzerland 6-0
Netherlands 3-0
1932
Japan 11-1
USA 24-1
1936
Hungary 4-0
USA 7-0
Japan 9-0
France 10-0
Germany 8-1

Major Dhyan Chand – The Magician of Hockey


SUN IAS ACADEMY
NATIONAL SPORTS DAY
29th August
This day marks the birthday of
Indian Hockey player
MAJOR DHYAN CHAND
who brought glory to the
country by winning
3
OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALS
(1928,1932,1936)
400+
INTERNATIONAL GOALS
SCORED
22 YEARS
PLAYED FOR THE INDIAN
TEAM (1926-1948)
Padma Bhushan
1956

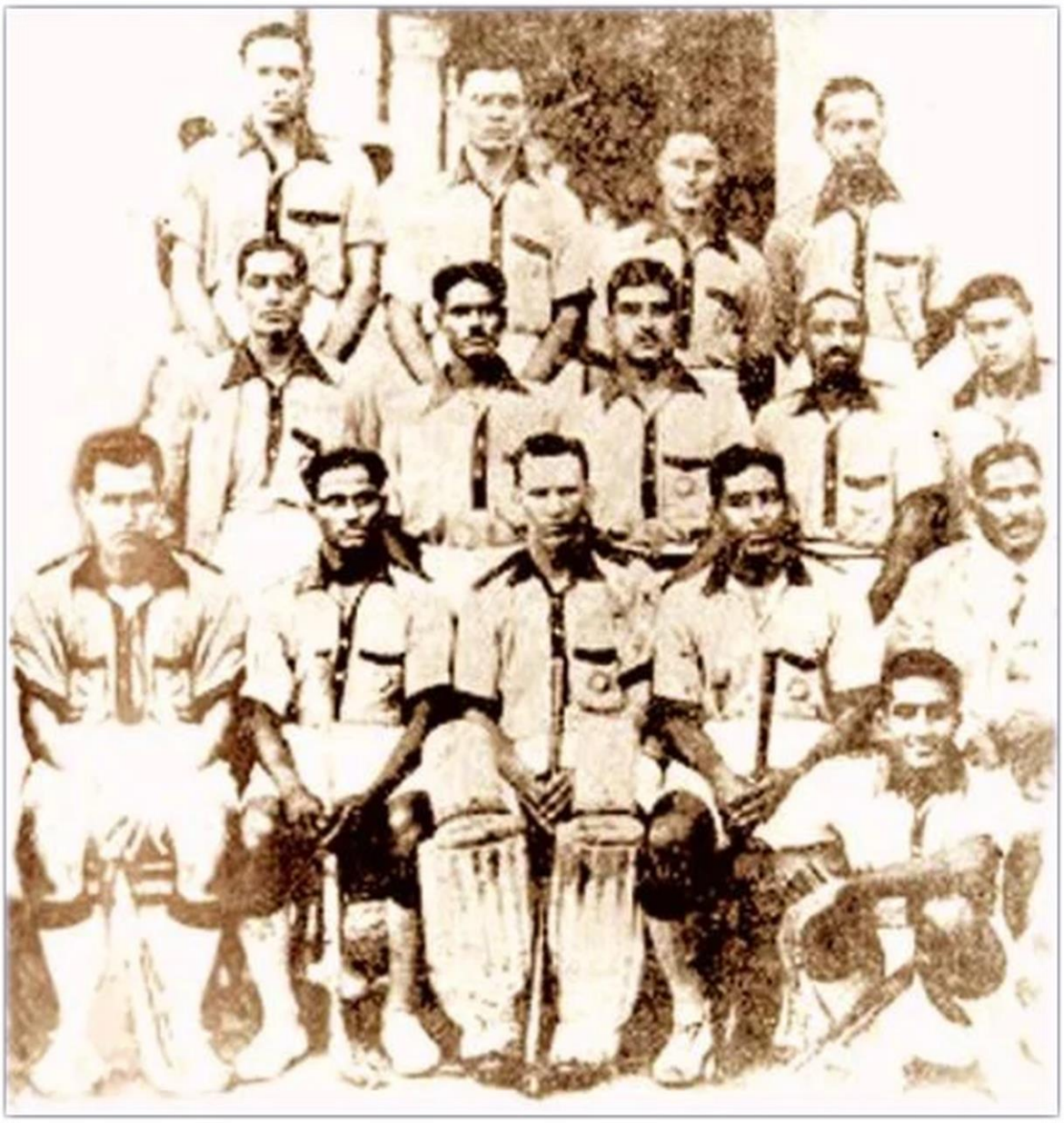

NATIONAL SPORTS DA
Birth Anniversary of
Major Dhyan Chand Singh

'You score goals like runs in cricket'

<<< Sir Donald Bradman [Left]

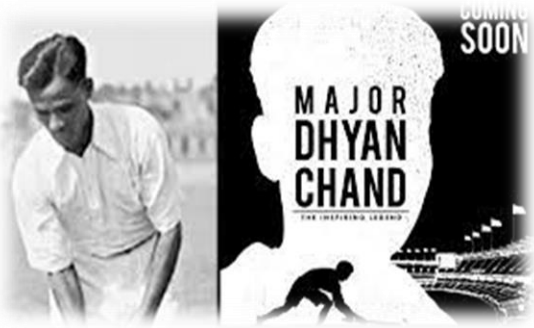
राष्ट्रीय खेल दिवस पर
की हार्दिक बधाई!

Adolf Hitler tried to rule the world...
But Dhyan Chand ruled Hitler

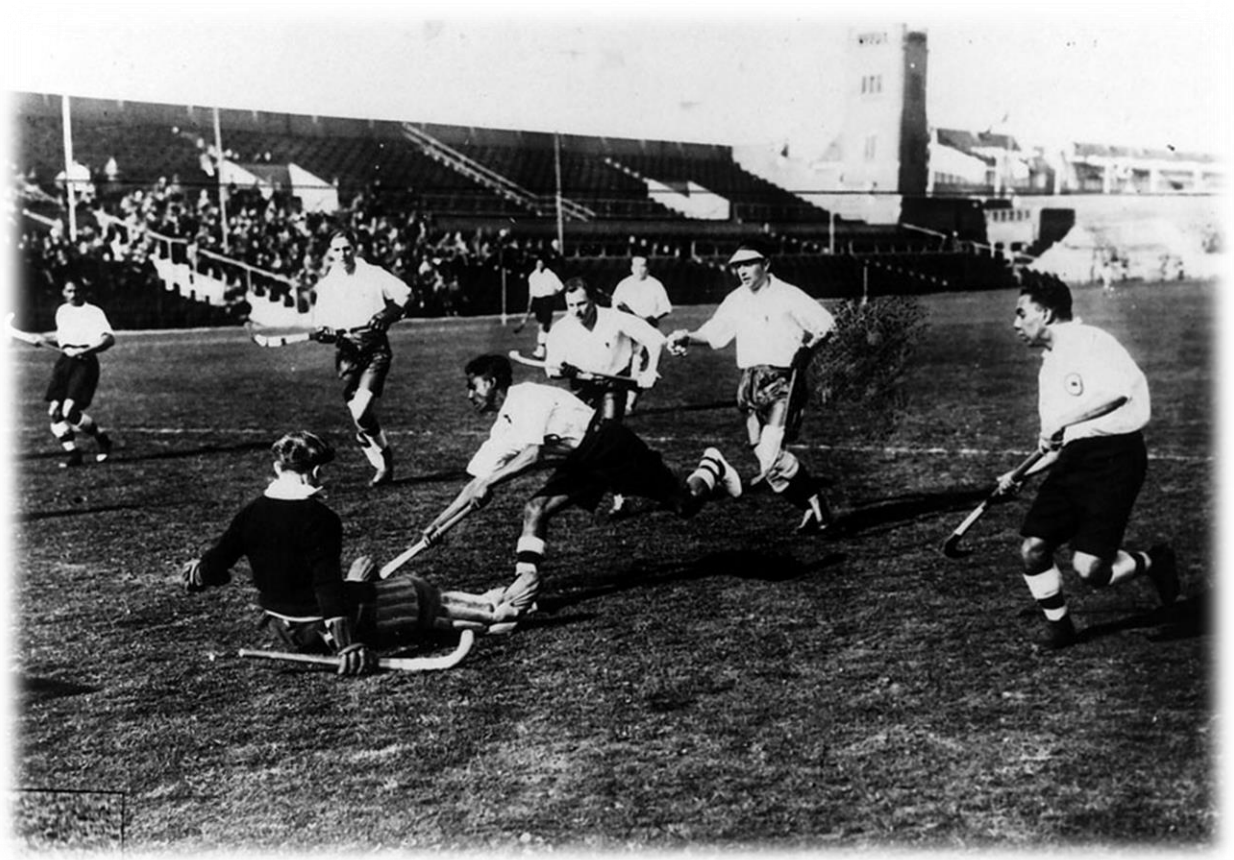


Dhyan Chand's medals and mementos in his family house in Jhansi.

Hockey legend Dhyan Chand, who captained the Delhi team, health minister Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, His Excellency Chakravarthi Rajgopalachari, the Governor-General of India, statesman Sardar Baldev Singh and Kishan Lal who captained the Indian team.



Hans von Tschammer und Osten in the open car sitting in the discussion with the Indian Hockey player Dhyan Chand (left) in Berlin.



The star of the Indian team Dhyan Chand scores a goal - May 1928.

Sepoy Dhyan Singh

Important Chronology

August 29, 1904
Born in Allahabad.

1922

Joins the Army.

1922 - 26
Hockey confined to Army tournaments.

April 1926

Dhyan Chand makes his international debut with India's successful tour of New Zealand.

1928
India wins the Olympic hockey gold on its debut at the Amsterdam Olympics.

1932

India regains the gold medal at the Los Angeles Olympics, beating USA 24-1 in the final, a world record. Dhyan Chand scores 133 goals out of India's 338 on this world tour.

March 2, 1934
Appointed captain of India for the Western Asiatic Games.

Apr 13 - Sep 10, 1935

Tours New Zealand and Australia. Dhyan Chand scores 201 goals out of India's 584. Brother Roop Singh scores 185 goals.

1936
Appointed captain for the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Leads India to a great victory over Germany in the final. Dhyan Chand and Roop Singh score 11 goals each out of India's total of 38 goals in the Berlin Olympic hockey tournament. Dhyan Chand scores 59 goals out of India's 175 on the world tour.

Dec 1947 - early 1948

Appointed captain for the tour of East Africa. Dhyan Chand scores 61 goals in 22 matches, at the age of 43!

1949
After a hockey career that lasted 30 years, Dhyan Chand retires from hockey.

1956
Awarded the Padma Bhushan by the Government of India. Dhyan Chand remains the only hockey played to have been awarded the Padma Bhushan

December 3, 1979
Passes away in New Delhi.

December 4, 1980
Government of India issues a commemorative postage stamp and a First Day Cover in honour of Dhyan Chand. He remains the only Indian hockey player to have a stamp in his honour.

Number of Goals Accounted For: 395

This figure does not include goals in the Army tournaments, for his club Jhansi Heroes in domestic tournaments, goals in the 1926 tour of New Zealand, the ones in practice matches before the Olympics, and the goals in the many matches on the world tours. The total figure is estimated to exceed 1000 goals.

Dhyan Chand in action against France at the 1936 Olympic semi-finals.

Summary of Dhyan Chand's Role

Participation in International Events:

1926 ---- Australia – New Zealand Tour
1927 ---- London Folkstone Festival Tour
1936 ---- World Tour
1947 ---- East African Tour

GOALS SCORED:

Olympics

1928 Amsterdam Olympics	– 14 Goals (Total)
1928 Amsterdam Olympics Final Match	– 3 Goals
1932 Los Angeles Olympics	– 12 Goals
1936 Berlin Olympics	– 13 Goals
1936 Berlin Olympics Final Match	– 3 Goals

International Matches

1926 ---- Australia – New Zealand Tour	– 201 Goals in 43 Matches
1927 ---- London Folkstone Festival Tour	– 36 Goals in 10 Matches
1936 ---- World Tour	– 59 Goals
1947 ---- East African Tour	– 61 Goals in 22 Matches

Overall, Dhyan Chand has scored more than 1000 goals in his active hockey career.

First THREE Olympics

Indian Hockey Team			
1928	Amsterdam	Goals scored 29	Goals conceded 0
1932	Los Angeles	35	2
1936	Berlin	38	1

GOAL!

Autobiography of Hockey Wizard Dhyan Chand
Published by Sport & Pastime, Chennai, 1952

It is an autobiography written by Dhyan Chand narrating his experience in his life - both personal & professional. A very good and authentic source to know more about him. Narration is more personal and emotional offering the authentic version of his life.

The Hindu, started in 1878, was a much sought-after daily newspaper outside Madras also. The Sports pages was very popular for its action photographs and crisp articles by renown writers. Action photographs was The Hindu's forte. Collecting Cricket pictures was a favourite pastime with many cricket followers and these action photographs added a lot of value to the collections. Not many newspapers carried action pictures but The Hindu was ahead.

The Hindu is also probably the first to publish an exclusive magazine dedicated to sports. It started "Sport and Pastime" in 1947 under the leadership of S.K.Gurunathan, who was the Sports Editor at The Hindu. He was a renown sports journalist, a cricket statistician and a player himself in his younger days.

This autobiography was published by Sport & pastime in 1952.

Visit to read the complete eBook

http://www.bharatiyahockey.org/granthalaya/goal/

FOREWORD

Major-General A. A. Rudra

I consider it a very great honour to be asked to write a foreword for this book. I have known Dhyan Chand since 1924, and was present at the match in which he earned the name "The Wizard".

It was the final of the Punjab Indian Infantry tournament in Jhelum. His side was losing the match by two goals, and with only four minutes to go, his Commanding Officer called out to him, "Come on Dhyan! We are two goals down, do something about it." Dhyan Chand then proceeded to do something about it, and scored three goals in four minutes and led his side to victory.

Dhyan Chand has been, and is, the world's greatest hockey player. But besides being the world's greatest hockey player, Dhyan Chand is also a great gentleman – modest, unassuming, quiet and unspoilt by all the applause and adulation he has received. We cannot all be Dhyan Chands, but we all can certainly model our manners and deportment on his example in the field of sport.

Dhyan Chand has put India on the world map in sport. We want another like him; many more like him. And so, I say, read these memoirs and the instructional chapters, and play the game as he has played it.

PREFACE

Dhyan Chand

You are doubtless aware that I am a common man, and then a soldier. It has been my training from my very childhood to avoid limelight and publicity. I have chosen a profession where I have been taught to be a soldier, and nothing beyond that.

I have chosen as my most favourite sport a game, which unlike other sports, has no statisticians or historians in this country. You will, therefore, forgive me if my memoirs have not been chronicled in the correct sequence, and if I have not been able to present all the statistics and records of matches I have played, and the goals that I have scored.

I do not think man's intelligence could have conceived of a more fascinating game than hockey. Perhaps I am wrong because I have not played other games. But tell me which game is as fast as hockey? Which game is packed with so many thrilling moments in the short space of 70 minutes. In which game are you asked to wield

dangerous weapons such as sticks, and yet use them with so much skill that no one gets hurt.

Ever since I started playing this beautiful game, I became one of its great devotees. To me hockey has almost been a religion. More than anything else, I owe to this sport a great deal for what I am today. But for hockey I would not have made so many friends, and I would not have travelled far and wide.

Hockey is a game of great skill. To play it well is an art by itself. It calls for intelligence, keen eyes, powerful wrists, physical fitness and speed of mind and body. It also calls for great sportsmanship, tolerance and coolness. In short, hockey demands the best in you, both as a player and as a man.

Often situations arise during a game when you are provoked. But you should exercise tolerance and show sportsmanship by putting restraint on your temper, and then the game will go on serenely as if nothing has happened. But if you take one false step, the field becomes an ugly scene. You lose your value both as a player and as a man.

I must here mention the invaluable help I received from the great centre-half Manna Singh in the preparation of the instructions part, and Mr. Pankaj Gupta in writing the Memoirs. I must also express my gratitude to the Editor, Sport & Pastime, but for whose insistence I would not have undertaken this, to me, unimagined task of writing.

Chapter Contents

Readers are requested to visit the web link
to read the full chapters!

Page 1 : 1928 > Foreword and Preface

I was present at the match in which Dhyan Chand earned the name "The Wizard". It was the final of the Punjab Infantry tournament in Jhelum. His side was losing the match by two goals, and with only four minutes to go, his Commanding Officer called out to him, "Come on Dhyan! Do something about it."

Dhyan Chand then proceeded to do something about it, and scored three goals in four minutes and led his side to victory.

Page 1 : 1932 > In Memorium

Jaffar was very fond of duck shooting. Shortly after his return from Berlin, he went off to engage in his favourite pastime. Somewhere between Lahore and Amritsar is a big lake. While trying to retrieve a dead duck, he got entangled in the weeds and met a watery end.

My unit was in Punjab for some time. During movements, I had many occasions to pass through the road near that lake. Every time, I could not help recall this tragic incident.

Page 1 : 1936 > The Beighton Cup

Instituted in 1895, the Beighton Cup hockey tournament has had a non-stop run. World Wars I and II did not affect the tournament. Threats of Japanese bombs and actual bombings in Kolkata while the hockey season was on also did not prevent the tournament from being held.

That being said, it is sad to think that the tournament had to yield to the communal frenzy which gripped the nation in 1946-47.

Page 2 : New Zealand Again

Of the team members, M. J. Gopalan was also a test cricketer. On our return from New Zealand, Gopalan broke journey at Rameswaram to have a dip in the holy waters to wipe off the sin of crossing the seas.

Gopalan was a high-caste Hindu from the South, where orthodoxy was severe. Gopalan joined us the next day in Madras after being purified of all sins, and we all had a good joke at his expense.

Page 3 : Beautiful Perth

We left Colombo on April 17 on the S. S. Largs Bay of the Aberdeen and Commonwealth Line, a one-class liner, for the non-stop ten days voyage from Colombo to Fremantle.

There were the traditional festivities when we crossed the Equator, with members of our team getting their share of lathering and ducking. What struck us was the sudden drop in temperature when we crossed the Equator.

Page 4 : Ambition Fulfilled

Having received so much kindness and assistance from Bengal hockey, I feel it is my duty to tell Kolkata and Bengal that I will never forget what they have done to make Indian hockey what it is today.

Kolkata has the grounds on which it is a treat to play. It has a vast sporting crowd in its huge population, and it has selfless workers like Mr. Pankaj Gupta who know how to run a tournament economically and successfully.

Page 5 : Journey to Berlin

During our voyage from Aden to Marseilles, I must record one happy event. His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Krishnaraja Wodiyar, was travelling in the same steamer.

The Maharaja mixed with us freely and we all came to like him very much. He had his own arrangements for food, and every day we received curds and Indian vegetarian dishes. At Malta a large number of pressmen from England boarded the boat to interview him.

Page 6 : The Early Rounds

We played our first Olympic match against Hungary on August 5, which we won 4-0.

The Hungarian defence was excellent, and their goalkeeper was instrumental in keeping the score low.

After the match we were invited by the Maharaja and Maharani of Baroda to the Hotel Adlon. The Afghan team was also there and we had an enjoyable time.

Page 7 : Olympic Hockey Final

Suddenly Pankaj Gupta produced a Congress Tricolour. Reverently we saluted and prayed and marched onto the field.

A crowd of 40,000 which included the Maharaja of Baroda, the Princess of Bhopal and a large number of Indians who had travelled from all over the Continent and England, had turned up to witness the final. The vast crowd cheered as both teams entered the field..

Page 8 : East African Interlude

The entertainment and social side of our visit was well looked after, and we were the recipients of a number of civic welcomes, and there were also a number of lunches and dinners.

The national disaster that occurred in India on January 30, 1948, shocked the whole world, and British East Africa was no exception. For the mourning period, we cancelled all our social engagements.

Page 9 : Aga Khan Tournament

The Aga Khan tournament takes an unusually long time to conclude. This is because there is only ground at the disposal of the tournament. All matches of the Aga Khan tournament are staged on the grounds of Bombay Gymkhana, and they cannot possibly play more than one match a day.

Another difficulty is that the dates of the Aga Khan and the Beighton Cup tournaments invariably clash.

Page 10 : All-Times Best Teams

Some have asked me what were the most interesting moments of hockey career. A very exciting moment in my life was when I met Don Bradman in Adelaide in 1935, when the great cricketer posed for a photograph along with me, Pankaj Gupta and Roop Singh.

Another exciting moment was when I heard that I was elected to captain India in the 1936 Olympics. Selection as the India captain certainly was least expected by me.

Page 11 : Farewell Match

The Kolkata maidan belongs to the Defence Department of the Government of India, but it is controlled by the Kolkata Police. Called 'the lungs of Kolkata,' the maidan is reserved exclusively for the relaxation of the vast millions of this great city.

Many famous sporting clubs have their grounds on the maidan. Every year the club grounds have to be kept closed for a fortnight to prevent any rights from accruing to them.

Page 12 : The Journey's End

When we sent a touring side to New Zealand in 1935, a photograph was taken in Australia of Captain Dhyan Chand and Donald Bradman, each of whom was described as supreme in his own particular game.

What Don Bradman is to Australia and to world cricket, Dhyan Chand is to India and world hockey. Indeed, his fame is worldwide, as hockey is known in many more countries and continents than cricket.

Brief History of Indian Hockey in Olympics

[1928 – 2021]

India hockey the most successful team in Olympic history

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12 instances where India was on the podium at the Olympic games.

Gold – Amsterdam, 1928

The Olympics introduced the wizardry of Major Dhyan Chand to the world. India scored 29 goals in five matches while conceding none en route to their first hockey gold. Dhyan Chand was on the scoresheet 14 times. A glorious journey began. India's run consisted of a 6-0 mauling of Austria, a 9-0 thumping of Belgium, a 5-0 rout of Denmark, a 6-0 decimation of Switzerland, before a 3-0 win over hosts Netherlands in the final.

Gold – Los Angeles, 1932

India started their defence with an 11-1 rout of Japan with Roop Singh, Dhyan Chand's younger brother, scoring thrice. Dhyan Chand himself scored four times. Next, a 10-goal charge from Roop Singh and eight goals from the wizard himself secured a massive 24-1 win against the USA in the final. The scoreline remains a world record to the day.

Gold – Berlin, 1936

With Dhyan Chand as captain, the Indian hockey team completed a hat-trick of Olympic golds at Berlin 1936. This time, India scored 38 goals in five matches and only conceded one in the final against Germany. Dhyan Chand bagged his second hat-trick in the Olympic finals which sealed a thumping 8-1 victory.

Gold – London, 1948

India continued their dominance in the Olympics after achieving independence in 1947. A new superstar of the game rose from the ranks in Balbir Singh Sr. India collected 19 goals in three games to progress to the final, where they hammered hosts Great Britain 4-0 to stretch their Olympic gold-winning streak to four.

Gold – Helsinki, 1952

Having to deal with the cold conditions in Helsinki which they weren't quite used to back home, the Indian team marched their way to a staggering fifth gold medal on the trot, with Balbir Singh Sr. scoring nine goals in three games. India faced the Netherlands in the final, which they won 6-1, five of those goals being scored by Balbir.

Gold – Melbourne, 1956

It almost started getting hopeless for their opponents at this stage as India won yet another gold in the men's hockey event at the Olympics to make it an unprecedented six in a row. However, this time, they squared off against

neighbours Pakistan for the first time in the sport, winning the final by a narrow 1-0 margin. India maintained a clean sheet throughout their campaign.

Silver – Rome, 1960

After all the years of various teams trying and failing to halt their juggernaut, it was Pakistan that finally brought India's gold-medal streak in the Olympics to an end as they defeated their neighbours by a 1-0 margin — similar to the one in the 1956 Olympic final, only this time they were the ones to score.

Gold – Tokyo, 1964

After the shock defeat in Rome four years earlier, India was back on top in Olympic hockey as they ended up with gold medals around their necks the last the time Olympics took place in Tokyo. India entered the semis unbeaten, having won four of their six group games, before beating Australia in the semis. They faced Pakistan for a third consecutive time in the final, and the scoreline remained unchanged — 1-0.

Bronze – Mexico City, 1968

The golden era of India hockey was slowly starting to fade around this time, though the Indian team was still a force to reckon. The first time they failed to win a semi-final in the Olympics happened in the Mexican capital in 1968. Falling short against Australia in the semis by a 2-1 margin. India, however, would end their campaign on a high by beating West Germany 2-1 in the bronze medal match.

Bronze – Munich, 1972

The 1972 Olympics, remembered for all the wrong reasons in world history, saw India finish outside the top two in hockey for a second consecutive time, this time getting beaten by neighbours and rivals Pakistan 2-0. India once again bounced back from the semi-final defeat, this time beating Netherlands 2-1 in the bronze medal match.

Gold – Moscow, 1980

Moscow would be the last time India would win an Olympic medal in hockey for the next four decades. The path to the final was a relatively easy one thanks to a large number of major hockey forces missing from the Games due to the US-led boycott. In a tweaked format, India won three and drew two matches in round-robin stage to finish among the top two that qualified for the final. India would then edge Spain 4-3 in the final clash to collect their eighth gold and 11th medal overall, which would remain their last until Manpreet Singh and Co's bronze 41 years later.

Bronze – Tokyo, 2021

Manpreet-led Indian team began their campaign with a 3-2 victory over New Zealand, but suffered a 7-1 hammering at the hands of Australia in their second Pool A meeting. They quickly brushed off the defeat though, and would go on to win their next three group games, before defeating Great Britain 3-1 in the quarters to enter the semi-finals. It took one bad quarter in the clash against Belgium to leave them fighting for bronze. The team clinched their first medal in decades in spectacular fashion, bouncing from 1-3 down to sneak out a thrilling 5-4 win over Germany.

Golden Olympic Moments

http://www.bharatiyahockey.org/olympics/golden/

Let us travel through the achievements of Indian Hockey Team

WINNING EIGHT GOLD MEDALS

(☺)(☺)*(☺)*(☺)*(☺)*(☺)*(☺)*(☺)*

1928 : Amsterdam

- The 13 member Indian team for the 1928 Olympics (with 3 students joining in London) set sail on March 10, 1928 from Mumbai to London. Only 3 people - 2 officials of the IHF and a solitary journalist - were present on this historic occasion to see the first national hockey team leave the shores of India.
- The Indian team landed at the Tilbury docks near London on March 10, 1928, en route to Amsterdam. After witnessing the Indian jugglers' game in the Folkstone Hockey Festival, defending champions England, gold winners at the 1908 and 1920 Olympics, lost their enthusiasm. The English decided to withdraw from the Olympics to avoid defeat at the hands of a 'subject' people. Britain never played India as long as it remained its colony.
- The ten-day hockey competition in the Amsterdam Games was held in May, two months before the rest of the Olympic events. India made its debut in the Olympic Games on May 17, 1928, beating Austria 6-0. India went on to beat Belgium 9-0, Denmark 5-0 and Switzerland 6-0 in the semi-finals to set up the title clash against Holland.

- **Jaipal Singh**, a student of Oxford University, captained India only till the semi-finals before he had to go back to England. Vice Captain **Eric Pinniger** then took over the captaincy for the final against Holland.

- The finals, held on May 26, 1928, aroused tremendous interest. Nearly 24,000 spectators, till then the biggest crowd for a hockey match, saw the game. India beat Holland 3 - 0 to win its first ever Olympic gold medal, and its first ever victory in a world tournament. On May 29, when the prize giving ceremony was held at the Olympic Stadium, and Eric Pinniger lead the team to the victory stand, this marked the first time that a team from Asia had won any medal in the Olympics.

- **Richard James Allen** did not concede a single goal in the 1928 Olympics. Allen, who kept India's goal in 3 consecutive Olympics (1928, 1932, 1936), conceded a total of only 3 goals in the 3 Olympics and won 3 gold medals.

- The Amsterdam Games marked the debut of a Lance Naik from the Indian Army - the 'Hockey Wizard' **Dhyan Chand**. He had come by the sobriquet with a sensational feat in the final of the Punjab Indian Infantry tournament in the town of Jhelum. 'Come on, Dhyan! We are two goals down,' said his commanding officer. 'Do something about it.' Dhyan Chand then scored three goals in the last four minutes for his side to snatch a dramatic victory. Dhyan Chand was the favourite of all at the Amsterdam Games, dazzling spectators and critics alike.

- An awe-struck Dutch journalist wrote "*The Indian ball seems ignorant of the laws of gravity. One of those tanned diabolical jugglers stares at the ball intently; it gets upright and remains suspended in the air. This is no longer the game of hockey. It is a juggling turn. It is splendid.*" The Indian team's performance revived interest in hockey, and overnight it became a world sport.

- India's record in the 1928 Olympics at Amsterdam was as follows :
  - Played: 5
  - Won: 5
  - Goals For: 29
  - Goals Against: 0

- The following were the members of the 1928 Indian Olympic Team :
  - Jaipal Singh (captain) (from London)
  - Broome Eric Pinniger (vice captain) (Punjab)
  - Shaukat Ali (Bengal)
  - Richard J. Allen (goalkeeper) (Bengal)
  - Dhyan Chand (United Provinces)
  - Michael A. Gateley (Delhi)
  - William James Goodsir-Cullen (United Provinces)
  - Leslie C. Hammond (United Provinces)
  - Feroze Khan (Punjab)
  - George Eric Marthins (United Provinces)
  - Rex A. O. Norris (Central Provinces)
  - Nawab of Pataudi (from London)
  - Michael E. Rocque (Central Provinces)
  - Frederick S. Seaman (United Provinces)
  - Kher Singh (Punjab)
  - Syed M. Yusuf (from London)
  - A. R. Rosser (manager) (Bengal)

1932 : Los Angeles

- The first group of Indian sportsmen to ever visit the United States was the Indian hockey team for the 1932 Olympics. India retained the Olympic Gold it had first won in the 1928 Amsterdam Games. The scores were:
    - India 11 - Japan 1 (Dhyan Chand 4, Roop Singh 3, Gurmeet Singh 4)
    - India 24 - USA 1 (Roop Singh 10, Dhyan Chand 8, Gurmeet Singh 4, Richard Carr 1, Eric Pinniger 1)

- The 1932 Olympic hockey matches spawned a couple of records that stand till this date. The biggest score in an international hockey match is the 24-1 victory of India over the USA, played on August 11, 1932. The record for the most number of goals scored in a single hockey match belongs to **Roop Singh**, who slammed in ten goals in the 24-1 rout of USA.

- So how did USA score that one goal? The backs had decided to let the Americans have a run, but when they looked behind, there was no goalkeeper. The Indian goalkeeper **Richard Allen** was signing autographs behind the goal post!

- *Hockey Kings Arrive Today.*
  They will be accompanied by their many wives.
  There are two lions in the team

  The Los Angeles sport writer, way back in 1932, was wrong about the wives (whether one or many), though he was right about the lions. There were indeed two - Roop Singh and **Gurmeet Singh**.

- Foreign critics praised the sorcery of the champions in lyrical and melodious terms. A report in a Los Angeles daily, filed by a woman correspondent, said: "*All the colour, glamour and pageantry of Rudyard Kipling's India might well have found its incarnation in the personnel of the Indian team which is to represent the land of Mahatma Gandhi. So agile are the members of the team that they can run the full length of the hockey field, juggling a small wooden ball with the flat of a hockey stick.*"

- The finest tribute to the Indian hockey team was by the Los Angeles sports journalists who voted the team's showing in the Olympics as "the most outstanding exhibition of skill in any sport."

- 25 out of the 35 goals scored by India in the 1932 Olympics were by the two brothers - left-in **Roop Singh** (15) and centre-forward **Dhyan Chand** (10). The hockey brothers went on to represent India in the 1936 Olympics also, winning yet another gold medal for India.

- The captain of the Indian team, **Lal Shah Bokhari**, migrated to Pakistan after partition, and was his country's High Commissioner to Ceylon. He died in Ceylon in 1958.

- India's record in the 1932 Olympics at Los Angeles was as follows :
    - Played: 2
    - Won: 2
    - Goals For: 35
    - Goals Against: 2

- The following were the members of the 1932 Indian Olympic Team :
    - Lal Shah Bokhari (captain)
    - Richard J. Allen (goalkeeper)
    - Syed Mohammed Jafar
    - Mohammed Aslam
    - Frank Brewin
    - Richard J. Carr
    - Dhyan Chand
    - Leslie C. Hammond
    - Arthur C. Hind
    - Masud Minhas
    - Broome Eric Pinniger
    - Gurmeet Singh Kullar
    - Roop Singh
    - Carlyle Carroll Tapsell
    - William Sullivan

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1936 : Berlin

- The Indian hockey team set sail for Germany in the ocean liner 'Aitheneaver' to participate in the Berlin Olympics. The journey lasted 15 days. The team lost hundreds of hockey balls while practising on the deck of the liner.

- One day after their arrival in Germany, India played a warm up game against a German side and lost 1-4. An urgent cable message went out

from Berlin, asking for the services of **A. I. S. Dara**. Dara was air dashed to Berlin, just one day before India's semi-final match.

- India beat Hungary 4-0, United States 7-0 and Japan 9-0. **Dara** joined the team for the 10-0 massacre of France in the semi-finals. No team had scored a single goal against India in their relentless march to the finals.

- India met Germany in the final on August 15, 1936. The Indian team assembled in the dressing room prior to the match. All the players reverently saluted the tricolour of the Indian National Congress, which their Assistant Manager had taken with him to Berlin.

- The final started at 11:00 am before a record crowd of 40,000 spectators, the biggest ever to witness a hockey match in the Olympic Games. Among the audience was the ruler of Baroda, the princess of Bhopal, and other Indians who had travelled from the Continent.

- India was up by 6 goals in the finals. The Germans now decided to play rough. Going for **Dhyan Chand**, the German goalkeeper removed one of his teeth. Coming back after receiving first aid, the bare-footed Dhyan Chand instructed his team to go easy on goals. "We must teach them a lesson in ball control," he said. As the stunned crowd watched, the Indians repeatedly took the ball up to the German circle and then backpassed to dumbfound their opponents. India ultimately prevailed over Germany 8-1 in the finals to win its third successive Olympic gold medal.

- The Fuhrer was very impressed by Dhyan Chand's performance in the finals. At a dinner party after the finals, Hitler offered to elevate Dhyan Chand to the rank of a Colonel if he migrated to Germany. Dhyan Chand turned down the offer.

- This was to be the last Olympics of 'Hockey Wizard' Dhyan Chand. World War II intervened to prevent any more Olympic appearances of the hockey immortal. Dhyan Chand is to hockey what *Bradman* is to cricket and *Pele* is to soccer. Dhyan Chand scored over a thousand goals in a career spanning 1926 - 1948.

- The ultimate tribute was paid to him by a sports club in Vienna, which built a statue of Dhyan Chand with four hands and four sticks. To those Viennese, no ordinary man with two hands and one stick could have played so well. Every age produces its own genius. But the only hockey wizard of the 20th Century has been Major Dhyan Chand, the king among centre-forwards.

- **Joseph Garibaldi**, who passed away in London on May 17, 2011, was the last surviving member of the two 1936 Olympic hockey finalists teams - India and Germany. He emigrated to England in 1956. Joseph Garibaldi remembers having met the great Jesse Owens. He told Owens that he must be the favourite for his events. Owens replied, "*this is my first Olympic Games, therefore I cannot be sure. On the other hand, the Indian hockey team has always won the gold medal.*"

- **Baburao Narasappa Nimal** and **Joseph Phillips** were the two Pune-based players of the 1936 Indian Olympic team. Half the township gathered at Khadki railway station in 1936 to give a send-off to Babu and Joe, the hockey stars of Khadki, as they set off on their Olympic quest. Babu recalled, "It was an honour to play in the 1936 Olympic team. After all, that was the last team from undivided India. For every position, there were 3-4 players ready to join the team if you failed." Joe Phillips died in 1986, while Babu Nimal died on February 21, 1998.

- 39 years after their Olympic victory at Berlin, **Dhyan Chand** and **Ahmed Sher Khan** had a role to play, albeit indirectly, in India's victory at the 1975 World Cup at Kuala Lumpur. Ahmed Sher Khan's son, **Aslam Sher Khan**, scored from a penalty corner with only 3 minutes left to save India from certain defeat in the semi-finals of the World Cup against Malaysia. India went on to beat Malaysia in extra-time. In the epic final against Pakistan, master dribbler **Ashok Kumar**, worthy son of the legendary Dhyan Chand, scored the goal that won for India its first and only World Cup title till date.

- India's record in the 1936 Olympics at Berlin was as follows :
  - Played: 5
  - Won: 5
  - Goals For: 38
  - Goals Against: 1

- The following were the members of the 1936 Indian Olympic Team :
  - Dhyan Chand (captain)
  - Richard J. Allen (goalkeeper)
  - Ali Iqtidar Shah Dara
  - Lionel C. Emmett
  - Paul Peter Fernandes
  - Joseph Galibardy
  - Ernest John Goodsir-Cullen
  - Mohammed Hussain

- Syed Mohammed Jafar
- Ahsan Mohammed Khan
- Ahmed Sher Khan
- Mirza Nasir-ud-din Masud
- Cyril J. Mitchie
- Babu Narsoo Nimal
- Joseph Philips
- Shabban Shahab-ud-din
- Gurcharan Singh Garewal
- Roop Singh
- Carlyle Carroll Tapsell

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1948 : London

- A great deal had transpired in the years between the Berlin Olympics in 1936 and the London Olympics in 1948. India got its independence, but suffered a devastating partition when a new state of Pakistan was carved out.

- Many Anglo-Indians left the country, and a number of Muslims migrated to Pakistan. India lost a rich recruiting ground for hockey talent. A brand new Indian team left for London, without a single player who had played in an earlier Olympics.

- The captain of the Pakistan hockey team in the 1948 Olympics was **A. I. S. Dara**. He had represented India in the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games. Besides Dara, **Paul Peter Fernandes** and Bhopal's **Akhtar Hussain** and **Latif-ur-Rehman**, have done duty for both India and Pakistan in the Olympics.

- India beat Austria 8-0 in their first match. India followed up this victory by defeating Argentina 9-1, Spain 2-0, and Holland 2-1 to enter the finals.

- The first time that India met Britain in an Olympic hockey match was on September 12, 1948, at Wembley grounds, in the Olympic hockey final. In this long awaited meeting, India beat Britain 4-0 in to win its fourth consecutive gold medal - its first as a free country. **Balbir Singh Sr.** (Punjab Police) was the find of independent India as a centre-forward. He scored both the first half goals for India, while **Pat Jansen** and **Trilochan Singh** (penalty corner) shared the other two.

- Balbir Singh Sr. went on to win two more Olympic gold medals, and manage the World Cup winning Indian team at Kuala Lumpur in 1975. His well-known autobiography is '***The Golden Hat Trick***'. He presently resides in Burnaby, British Columbia in Canada.

- The victorious captain **Kishan Lal** fulfilled a childhood boast when he dined with King George. As a schoolboy in Mhow, Kishan Lal had upbraided a sweets vendor for allowing flies to settle on his wares. The haughty hawker

snapped back: 'Who do you think you are? The son of a nawab? Do you dine with princes and rajas?' Kishan retorted: 'Don't be so smart. One day, I'll dine with the King of England.' Kishan Lal, the finest outside-right that India has ever produced, did dine with the British monarch at a formal banquet.

- After the victory, V. K. Krishna Menon, free India's first High Commissioner to England, gave an official reception at India House. The victorious Indian team went on a goodwill tour of the European mainland - visiting France, Czechoslavakia and Switzerland.

- The team returned by ship to Bombay, where a red carpet welcome was given to the team. The victory celebrations culminated in Delhi, where President **Rajendra Prasad** and Prime Minister **Jawaharlal Nehru** attended a match involving the Olympic team at the jam packed National Stadium.

- India's record in the 1948 Olympics at London was as follows :
    - Played: 5
    - Won: 5
    - Goals For: 25
    - Goals Against: 2

- The following were the members of the 1948 Indian Olympic Team :
    - Kishan Lal (captain)
    - Kunwar Digvijay Singh (Babu) (vice captain)
    - Leslie Claudius
    - Walter D'Souza
    - Keshav Dutt
    - Lawrie Fernandes
    - Ranganathan Francis
    - Randhir Singh Gentle
    - Gerry Glacken
    - Akhtar Hussain
    - Patrick Jansen
    - Amir Kumar
    - Leo Pinto
    - Jaswant Singh Rajput
    - Latif-ur-Rehman
    - Reginald Rodrigues
    - Balbir Singh
    - Grahanandan Singh

- Trilochan Singh
- Maxie Vaz

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1952 : Helsinki

- India beat Austria 4-0 and Great Britain 3-1 in the knockout matches en route to the finals. Holland challenged the Olympics champions but lost 1-6, and India won the hockey crown for the 5th time in a row.

- **Balbir Singh Sr.** scored 9 goals of the 13 scored by India at Helsinki, including 5 of the 6 goals in the final. **Chinnadorai Desamuthu** became the youngest gold medallist for India. He was 19 years and 272 days when India won the Olympic title in the Helsinki Games.

- India's hockey captain **K. D. Singh 'Babu'** received the Helms Trophy in 1953 for being the best hockey player in the world (1952) and the best sportsman of Asia (1953). This was the first time an Asian was awarded the Helms Trophy - America's Nobel Prize in Sports. Ten years later, in

1963, another Indian star **Milkha Singh** would received the Helms Trophy for being the best quarter-miler in the world.

- Babu's artistry, craftsmanship and creative instincts saw him blossom into one of the finest inside-rights that India has produced. His ball and body control was instinctive, a sort of sixth sense. Babu, an all-time great hockey player of India committed suicide in April 1978. The main sports stadium of Lucknow is named the K. D. Singh (Babu) Stadium in his memory.

- India's record in the 1952 Olympics at Helsinki was as follows :
    - Played: 3
    - Won: 3
    - Goals For: 13
    - Goals Against: 2

- The following were the members of the 1952 Indian Olympic Team :
    - Kunwar Digvijay Singh 'Babu' (captain)
    - Balbir Singh (vice captain)
    - Ranganathan Francis
    - Chinnadorai Deshmuthu
    - Randhir Singh Gentle
    - Dharam Singh
    - Swarup Singh
    - Govind Perumal
    - Keshav Dutt
    - Leslie Claudius
    - Jaswant Singh Rajput
    - Meldric Daluz
    - Raghbir Lal
    - Udham Singh
    - Muniswamy Rajagopal
    - G. S. Dubey
    - Grahanandan Singh
    - C. S. Gurung

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1956 : Melbourne

- 12 teams, divided into 3 groups took part in the 1956 Olympics competition. India won all the group matches, beating Afghanistan 14-0, USA 16-0 and Singapore 6-0. At this stage India had scored 36 goals in 3 games, with no goals against. India then scraped past Germany with a solitary goal victory in the semi-finals.

- India clashed with Pakistan for the first time since the partition of India. Midway through the second half, India was awarded a penalty corner. The ball was pushed out by Udham Singh and stopped by Raghbir Singh Bhola. Randhir Singh Gentle took the shot. A Pakistani defender failed to trap it cleanly and allowed the ball to trickle over the goal line. And so India secured the gold medal for the sixth time in a row, until then a record for any country in any team sport in the Olympics.

- Inside-left Udham Singh scored 15 goals for India in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics - the highest tally by an Indian at an Olympics till that date.

- For over 20 years, the only triple gold medallists for India were the 'Hockey Wizard' Dhyan Chand and goalkeeper Richard James Allen (1928-1936). After the 1956 Olympics, Balbir Singh Sr., Randhir Singh Gentle and Ranganathan Francis became the other triple gold medallists for India (1948-1956).

- India's record in the 1956 Olympics at Melbourne was as follows :
    - Played: 5
    - Won: 5
    - Goals For: 38
    - Goals Against: 0

- The following were the members of the 1956 Indian Olympic Team :
    - Balbir Singh Sr. (captain)
    - Shankar Lakshman (goalkeeper)
    - Ranganathan Francis
    - Bakshish Singh
    - Randhir Singh Gentle
    - Leslie Claudius
    - Amir Kumar
    - Govind Perumal
    - Charles Stephen
    - Gurdev Singh
    - Udham Singh
    - Raghbir Singh Bhola
    - Balkrishan Singh
    - Haripal Kaushik
    - Raghbir Lal
    - O. P. Malhotra
    - Hardayal Singh
    - Amit S. Bakshi

1964 : Tokyo

- The Tokyo Olympics were the first Olympics to be held on Asian soil. India made a bold bid to regain her lost supremacy in world hockey. India was coached by **Habul Mukherjee**, who used to play hockey in a dhoti in his heydays. The team went on a two-and-a-half month tour to New Zealand and Malaysia before heading to Tokyo.

- In the pool matches, India finished at the top with 12 points. India beat Belgium 2-0, was held to a draw by both Germany and Spain, beat Hong Kong 6-0, Malaysia 3-1, Canada 3-0 and Holland 2-1. In the semi-final, India beat Australia 3-1 to set up their third consecutive clash with Pakistan in the Olympic finals.

- The final was played on a cold afternoon on November 23, 1964, at the Kamazawa Park in Tokyo. The first half was played at a scorching pace but no goal was scored. There was an unruly incident with some of the Pakistanis attacking the Indian players. The match was briefly interrupted for the tempers to cool down. Manager Inder Mohan Mahajan couldn't bear the tension and started pacing outside the field, all the while keeping in touch on the progress of this grim battle for Olympic supremacy.

- The forward line comprising **Harbinder Singh** and **Joginder Singh** was irresistible that day. 5 minutes into the second half, a penalty corner was awarded to India which was taken by India's 'Rock of Gibralter' **Prithipal Singh**.

- Prithipal had been fantastic in the Tokyo Olympics thus far, and had scored 11 goals. However, this penalty corner was to be his most important. His stinging shot was deflected off the goalkeeper's pad and stopped by Pakistan's full back Munir Dar with his foot. Centre-half **Mohinder Lal** converted the resultant penalty stroke in the 41st minute to give India a 1-0 lead.

- IHF President Ashwini Kumar did the running commentary for Akashvani in the final at Tokyo. Each move forward by India was a potential goal in his eyes. And when Mohinder Lal converted the penalty stroke, a hysterical Ashwini Kumar cried himself hoarse. It was an instant in which Akashvani

and Ashwini Kumar were made for each other, a sound-byte that would become frozen in time.

- Pakistan fought back ferociously in the closing stages of the match and gave India many anxious moments. **Shankar Lakshman**, the Indian custodian, played superbly and saved two sizzling penalty corner hits. India held on to its slender lead to win its seventh gold medal in eight Olympic Games. Shankar Lakshman, one of India's best ever goalkeepers, was declared the Man of the Match.

- Euphoria swept the land. There was a massive reception at Palam Airport to welcome **Charanjit Singh's** returning heroes. The players were driven in a motor cavalcade through the streets of Delhi and Jalandhar. Admiring fans sought their autographs on currency notes.

- Left-in **Udham Singh** (1952-1964) joined right-half **Leslie Claudius** (1948-1960) as the only Indians to have won 3 Gold Medals and 1 Silver Medal in the Olympic hockey. Udham Singh passed away in his native village Sansarpur on March 23, 2000.

- **V. J. Peter** played in the 1960, 1964 and 1968 Olympics Games. After he retired, his brother **V. J. Phillips** played in the 1972 and 1976 Games. Thus the two brothers represented India over a period of 16 years, winning for India 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronzes in 5 Olympics. V. J. Peter died in Chennai on June 30, 1998. V. J. Phillips is presently a Sports Officer with the Railways, and umpires hockey matches in Chennai.

- India's record in the 1964 Olympics at Tokyo was as follows :
    - Played: 9
    - Won: 7
    - Drawn: 2
    - Goals For: 22
    - Goals Against: 5

- The following were the members of the 1964 Indian Olympic Team :
    - Charanjit Singh (captain)
    - Shankar Lakshman (goalkeeper)
    - Rajendran Christie
    - Prithipal Singh
    - Dharam Singh
    - Gurbux Singh
    - Mohinder Lal

- Jagjit Singh
- Rajinder Singh
- Joginder Singh
- Haripal Kaushik
- Harbinder Singh
- Bandu Patil
- Victor John Peter
- Udham Singh
- Darshan Singh
- Syed Ali
- Balbir Singh Kular

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1980 : Moscow

- 9 teams from the 1976 Montreal Olympic hockey competition did not compete in the 1980 Moscow Olympic hockey tournament. The boycotting teams included the top 3 teams at Montreal - New Zealand (gold), Australia (silver) and Pakistan (bronze). European hockey powerhouses Germany, Holland and Great Britain also did not compete in this US-led boycott of the 1980 Olympic Games.

- The Moscow Olympics hockey competition was played on poligras fields laid at the Dynamo and Young Pioneers clubs. The synthetic pitches did not have automatic sprinklers. When the pitches had to be watered, it was by lorries with hoses fixed to their bonnets.

- In a greatly weakened field of participants, India thrashed last minute entry Tanzania 18-0 in its first match. In one purple patch, India found the net 5 times in as many minutes. This huge victory over Tanzania was the second biggest score in Olympic hockey, after the 24-1 victory by India over USA in the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics.

- India was lucky to get away with a 2-2 draw with Poland in the next game, with Merwyn Fernandes equalising for India with only 5 seconds to spare. India had another lucky 2-2 draw with Spain, with the equaliser coming in the last 4 minutes. After surviving these hiccups, India beat Cuba 13-0 and hosts USSR 4-2 to come second in the pool (behind Spain) and qualify for the final.

- In the final against Spain, India had a rousing start and established a comfortable three goal lead early in the second half. But Spain gamely bounced back into the game with 2 unanswered goals. With Spain raiding the Indian defence, and with only 6 minutes left, Mohammed Shaheed scored a goal to give more breathing room to India.

- However, with only 4 minutes remaining, Spain scored yet again with their skipper Juan Amat completing his hat-trick. The atmosphere in the last few minutes was electric, and India finally won the thriller 4-3, and thus regained the elusive gold after 16 long years. Spain had to be content with the Fairplay Trophy.

- Those were the days before satellite television had invaded India. Fans faithfully followed the game on *Akashvani*, and this golden victory was the top story in the *Doordarshan* bulletin that night.

- The 16 goals scored by centre-forward **Surinder Singh Sodhi** in the 1980 Moscow Olympics is the highest tally by an Indian in an Olympic hockey competition. It beat the earlier record of 15 goals set by the great **Udham Singh** in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics.

- Hockey proved very popular with the fans in Moscow. There were attendance figures of 10,000 or more at nearly every game. A total of 177,880 paying spectators watched the hockey matches. This made hockey the 6th most watched event at the Moscow Olympics.

- For the generation of Indians born after the mid-1960s, the Moscow Olympics hockey title remains their only link to India's golden Olympic past.

- India's record in the 1980 Olympics at Moscow was as follows :
    - Played: 6
    - Won: 4
    - Drawn: 2
    - Goals For: 43
    - Goals Against: 9

- The following were the members of the 1980 Indian Olympic Team :
    - Vasudevan Bhaskaran (captain)
    - Allen Schofield (goalkeeper)
    - Bir Bahadur Chhetri
    - Sylvanus Dung Dung
    - Rajinder Singh
    - Davinder Singh
    - Gurmail Singh
    - Ravinder Pal Singh
    - Sommayya Maneypande
    - Maharaj Krishan Kaushik
    - Charanjit Kumar
    - Merwyn Fernandes
    - Amarjit Singh Rana
    - Mohammed Shahid
    - Zafar Iqbal
    - Surinder Singh Sodhi

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India in 1936 Olympics

Also visit:

https://olympics.com/en/news/indian-hockey-team-players-berlin-1936-olympics-gold-medal-dhyan-chand

SUMMARY

- **Preliminary Round (Group A)**
  - Defeated Japan (9–0)
  - Defeated Hungary (4–0)
  - Defeated United States (7–0)
- **Semi Finals**
  - Defeated France (10–0)
- **Final**
  - Defeated Germany (8–1) → Gold

Results

Group stage:

Group A[:

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	India	3	3	0	0	20	0	+20	**6**	Semi-finals
2	Japan	3	2	0	1	8	11	−3	**4**	

3	Hungary	3	1	0	2	4	8	−4	**2**	
4	United States	3	0	0	3	2	15	−13	**0**	

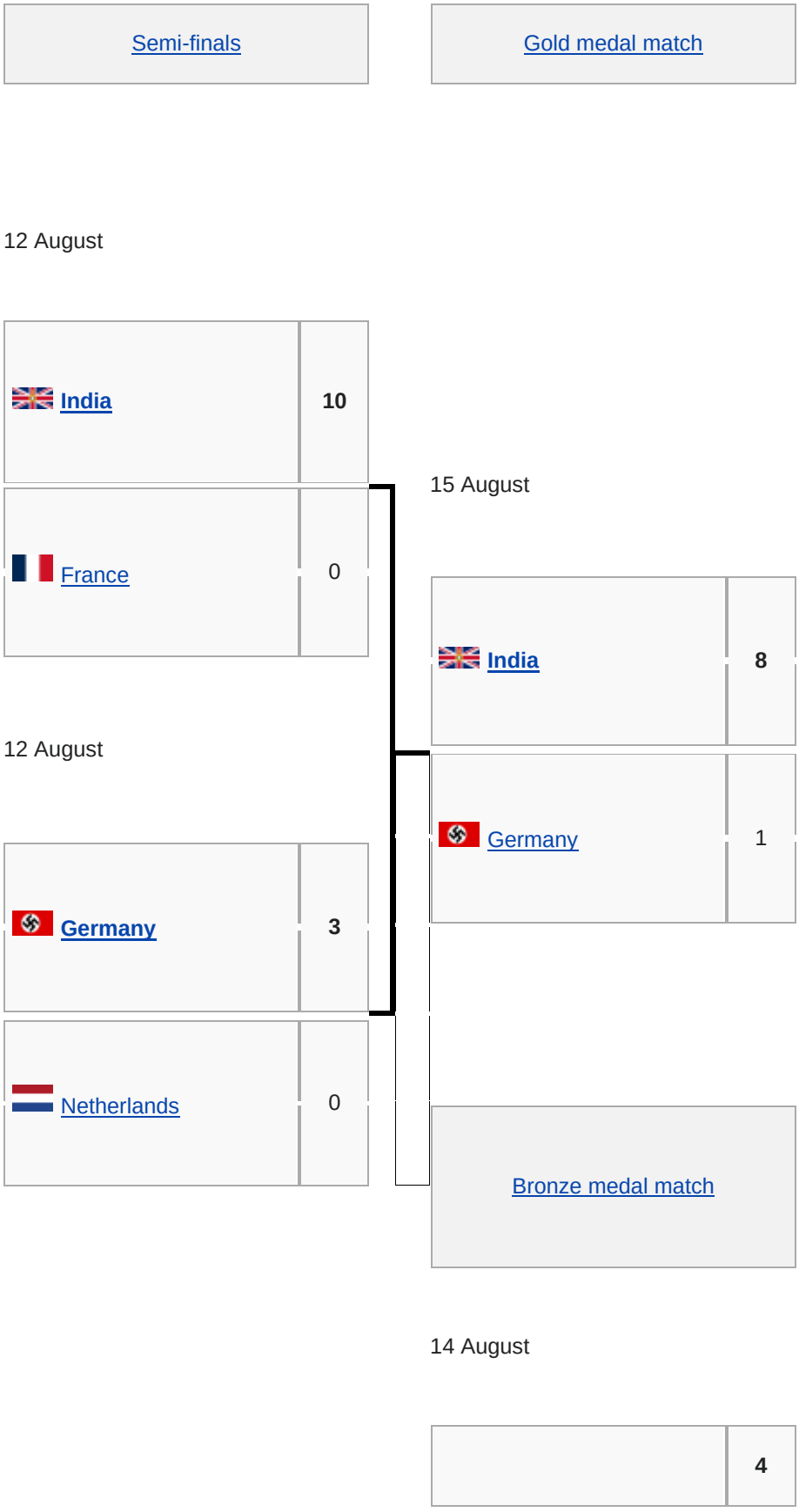
Group B

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	Germany **(H)**	2	2	0	0	10	1	+9	**4**	Semi-finals
2	Afghanistan	2	0	1	1	7	10	−3	**1**	
3	Denmark	2	0	1	1	6	12	−6	**1**	

Group C

Pos	Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	Qualification
1	Netherlands	3	2	1	0	9	4	+5	**5**	Semi-finals
2	France	3	1	1	1	4	5	−1	**3**	
3	Belgium	3	0	2	1	5	6	−1	**2**	
4	Switzerland	3	1	0	2	3	6	−3	**2**	

Medal round


Semi-finals
Gold medal match
12 August
India 10
France 0
12 August
Germany 3
Netherlands 0
15 August
India 8
Germany 1
Bronze medal match
14 August
4

Netherlands	
France	3

Participating nations

Each country was allowed to enter a team of 22 players and they all were eligible for participation. A total number of 214 field hockey players were entered.

A total of 161*(*)* field hockey players from 11 nations competed at the Berlin Games:

- Afghanistan (12 - from a squad of 18)
- Belgium (12 - from a squad of 22)
- Denmark (13 - from a squad of 17)
- France (18 - from a squad of 22)
- Germany (22)
- Hungary (15 - from a squad of 21)
- India (19 - from a squad of 22)
- Japan (11 - from a squad of 15)
- Netherlands (12 - from a squad of 18)
- Switzerland (13 - from a squad of 22)
- United States (14 - from a squad of 15)

(*) NOTE: There are only players counted, which participated in one game at least. The consolation rounds did not count.

There are only a few reserve players known. Five players from Belgium, three players from Denmark, and two players from Japan only competed in the consolation rounds, but not all their names are known.

Final standings

1. India
2. Germany
3. Netherlands
4. France
5. Switzerland
6. Afghanistan
7. Japan
8. Hungary
9. Belgium
10. Denmark
11. United States

1936 Olympics Hockey Team

01] DHYAN CHAND (CAPTAIN : Centre-forward)
02] CARLYLE TAPSELL (Left-back)
03] JOSEPH GALIBARDY (Left-half)
04] SAYED MOHAMMED JAFFAR (Left-winger)
05] ROOP SINGH (Inside-left)
06] RICHARD ALLEN (Goalkeeper)
07] ERNEST JOHN GOODSIR-CULLEN (Centre-half)
08] ALI IQTEDAR SHAH DARA (Inside-right)
09] SHABBAN SHAHABUDDIN (Right-winger)
10] BABU NIMAL (Right-half)
11] MOHAMMED HUSSAIN (Right-back)

Team's Mood and Feelings in Berlin

Barefoot and without a tooth, Dhyan Chand's magic took centre stage at Berlin 1936.

Surrounded by self-doubt heading into the Berlin Olympics, the Indian team put up a great show to win its third straight Olympic gold medal in 1936.

Despite its comprehensive wins at the 1928 and the 1932 Olympics, the Indian hockey team was yet to be considered the masters of the game when the 1936 Olympics came along.

This was largely due to India winning their second gold medal in a depleted field at the 1932 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Though the European nations stayed away from LA 1932 on account of the Great Depression, the four years since then saw them improve manifolds.

And for India, trying to defend the crown was not going to be an easy task.

However, the Indian hockey team - this time led by the talismanic Dhyan Chand - was riding on a 48-match winning streak a year before the Games and were on a definite high.

But as the 1936 Berlin Olympics edged closer, the Indian team was in for a reality check.

Dhyan Chand faces a worrying loss.

Just ahead of their departure for the Olympics, the Indian team suffered a 4-1 defeat to a Delhi XI side that raised a few questions about their preparedness.

"I never recognised Delhi as a hockey-playing centre, but on this day they were right on top of us and completely outplayed us," Dhyan Chand wrote in his autobiography Goal.

"While we were touring other centres before we finally sailed from Bombay, this particular defeat kept worrying me. For the first time, I was captaining the Olympic team; I wondered if India would lose the title under my charge?"

It was with this fear that Dhyan Chand and the Indian hockey team set sail for Berlin.

A long and tiring journey later, where the team encountered rough seas - with all but three members falling seasick - the Indian hockey team landed in Berlin two weeks ahead of its opening game against Hungary.

But the Indian hockey team's form still remained a worry as they lost its opening warm-up game against a German XI 4-1 just days after settling into the Olympic environment.

"While the Delhi defeat could have been dismissed as a one-off, this German blitzkrieg in Berlin was more serious," Olympics -- The India story, a book on India's Olympic history, summed up the warm-up match.

"They now knew they were not invincible and the Europeans had caught up. It served as a perfect wake-up call."

This loss didn't sit well with the Indian team.

The management tried to help strengthen the team by trying to send Ali Dara, an inside forward who had played alongside Dhyan Chand, to Berlin before their opener. But the Indian player could only join much later.

Meanwhile, in Germany, the team chose to go back to its basics as rigorous drills and training sessions twice a day became a norm.

The team also adhered to a strict code of discipline which included fixed time for bed, meals and leisure.

These sessions soon started bearing fruit as the Indian hockey team picked up steam as the Games edged closer and its confidence was back too with convincing wins in the remaining six warm-up games.

Grouped alongside Hungary, the United States and Japan in Group A, the Indian team steamrolled its opponents to storm into the semi-finals of the hockey tournament.

Dhyan Chand's younger brother Roop Singh and Mahmood Jaffer were the stars of the group stages as the Indian hockey team, banked on the side's attacking prowess, to record huge wins.

They won 4-0 against Hungary, and then beat the USA 7-0 with the captain Dhyan Chand, Roop Singh and Mahmood Jaffer scoring two goals apiece while Ernest Goodsir-Cullen completed the rout.

Against Japan, in their final group game, the Indians enjoyed the majority of the possession and made good use of their stickwork to record a 9-0 win to move into the semi-finals where a quality French team awaited them.

Barefoot and without a tooth

But despite such dominant performances, not many believed India could once again go on to retain the gold medal. This was largely down to the hosts Germany coming up the ranks in hockey over the past years.

While India eased through Group A, the Germans cruised in Group B and that set up an exciting gold-medal match.

"Germany had made tremendous strides and if the Indians are to win they will want to play even better than they did today when they gave their best display up to date," Indian newspaper *Statesman* had noted following the Indian team's win over Japan.

Not deterred by the reportage, the Indian hockey team continued its fine run at the Olympics with an empathic 10-0 win over France in the semi-final, with Dhyan Chand scoring four of those goals.

The **1936 Olympics hockey final** too was no different as India was on the money from the first whistle, barely allowing the Germans any room to make any inroads.

Determined to bring home a gold under his captaincy, Dhyan Chand scored in six goals in the 1936 Berlin Olympic final. This despite losing a tooth after a collision with German goalkeeper Tito Warnholtz

Dhyan Chand returned to the field after seeking medical attention and in the second half, he reportedly played barefoot to run faster.

India raced to an 8-1 win to complete their first hat-trick of Olympic gold medals at the Olympics. Captain Dhyan Chand, the hockey wizard, led from the front to emerge as the top goal-scorer of the tournament. The Indian hockey team scored 38 goals in all in five matches and conceded just one.

"Dhyan Chand who once more proved himself as the best centre-forward in the world, demonstrated his worth as a great captain," said team manager Swami Jagan Nath.

"Held in great esteem, affection and admiration by the hockey players, he was the central luminary around whom the members of the team revolved."

The skilful forwards were duly supported by the hardworking halves as the team rose to the occasion and demonstrated a perfect game of hockey that left the crowd in awe.

It was Dhyan Chand's third and final Olympics, and it was a befitting one for the then 31-year-old wizard.

1936 Olympics Indian Hockey Team:

Dhyan Chand (Captain):

Richard Allen, Ali Iqtidar Shah Dara, Lionel C. Emmett, Peter Paul Fernandes, Joseph D. T. Galibardy, Earnest John Goodsir-Cullen, Mohammed Hussain, Sayed Mohammad Jaffar, Ahmed Sher Khan, Ahsan Mohd. Khan, Mirza Nasir-Ud-Din Masood, Cyril James Michie, Baboo Narsoo Nimal, Joseph Phillips, Shabban Shahab-Ud-Din, Gurcharan Singh Garewal, Roop Singh, Carlyle Carrol Tapsell.

Dhyan Chand meets Hitler

As the hockey wizard showed his prowess
against Germany in the Olympics final,
the Fuhrer was more than impressed.

Please visit:

https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/comment/when-dhyan-chand-met-hitler-in-1936-284818

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Article by: Lt Col AK Ahlawat

The 1936 Olympics in Berlin were organised to showcase the German Third Reich as a diadem of the world. The Germans defeated the Indian hockey team 4-1 in a practice match. This sent a warning down the spine of a complacent Indian squad, basking in old glory of two previous gold medals in 1928 and 1932. The Indians sent an SOS telegram to New Delhi to send Captain Ali Iqtedar Shah, another fine player of the Indian squad

who had been denied leave by his English Commanding Officer to take part in the Olympics.

His teammates called him Dara. Dhyan Chand and Dara both belonged to the Punjab Regiment. Dhyan Chand, the team captain, was enrolled in the clerk trade and held the rank of Naik at that time. Dara was airlifted from Delhi and managed to reach Berlin in the nick of time.

The day was August 15, 1936. As predicted, Germany and India reached the finals and the two teams stood facing each other in the hockey stadium. At 11 am sharp, the whistle blew and the match started. In the grandstand sat Hitler, confident of Germany winning the match on the strength of the practice match results. The Germans had already sent an invitation to the Indian team for a social evening to fete the victors.

In the first half, the Indians were unable to pierce the German defence. In one rally by Dhyan Chand, the German goalkeeper collided with him and the goalkeeper's hockey stick stuck him in the face. Dhyan Chand collapsed on the field and had to be carried out. The Germans struck in the meanwhile and scored a goal. At half-time, Germany led by a solitary goal.

Dhyan Chand had lost a few teeth but was revived. He decided to change from stud-soled shoes to rubber-soled canvas PT shoes, his normal footwear. The game resumed, and the Germans were aggressive. The Indian captain played a mesmerising game, controlling the ball as if by divine wizardry and fired in three quick goals. Hitler left the match midway. The final score was India 8, Germany 1.

In the evening function, a German officer came to Dhyan Chand and said the Fuhrer wanted to meet him. Hitler stood talking to the German

players. Joseph Goebbels stood in the background. Himmler stood adjusting his pince nez.

"Mein Fuhrer, the Indian team Kapitan Herr Dhyan Chand."

Now what transpired has been related by Dhyan Chand in his own words.

"I did a salaam to the Fuhrer. Hitler scanned me from top to bottom. I am not a tall man. I was wearing the only coat I possessed and my canvas PT shoes with white pants."

"You are the hockey wizard everyone is blaming for turning the tables in today's match. Congratulations, your team played magnificently. I am told you had an injury in the match. How are you now?"

The translator translated from German to English. Dhyan Chand smiled and looked calmly at Hitler, "Shukriya Janab. I have left a tooth in Germany in today's match but otherwise I am fine. We are grateful for your fine hospitality."

Hitler started smiling when he heard the answer and he spoke again. "What do you do when not playing hockey?"

"Janab, I am in the Indian Army."

"What is your rank?"

"Janab, I am a Naik or Corporal."

"A Corporal. Even I have been a Corporal in my young days. You are a man of great ability and prowess. I can't believe that the British don't value your worth Herr Dhyan Chand. I offer you to join the German army as an officer. Clearly you know how to gain victories for your side."

There was total silence as the dictator spoke. The surrounding Nazis looked expectantly at Dhyan Chand's face. When he answered, he told the translator, "Please tell His Excellency the Fuhrer that I am deeply honoured by his generous offer. However, humble my rank, I am an Indian and India is my home. I am happy remaining a poor Corporal among my own people."

Hitler nodded his head slightly, looked at him again and moved on to meet other people.

(😊)(😊)(😊)(😊)(😊)

New Zealand Tour

On the field he was named the "Wizard of Hockey" for he exerted complete control on the ball. It appeared that the ball used to stick to his hockey stick while playing. So great was the magic of Dhyan Chand that the *Tokyo officials* broke his hockey stick to search for a *magnet* inside, and tried to console themselves saying he had added some sort of glue. On one occasion, a lady from the audience asked Dhyan Chand to play with her *walking stick* instead. He was supposedly so fast that TV analysis of his gameplay was rendered too slow.

During a 1935 tour of New Zealand and Australia, he scored **201** goals out of the team's tally of **584** in **43** matches. *Don Bradman* and *Dhyan Chand* once came face to face at *Adelaide* in **1935**, when the Indian hockey team was in Australia. After watching Dhyan Chand in action, Don Bradman remarked "He scores goals like runs in Cricket".

Indian Hockey team in 1935 tour

Goalkeepers: T. Blake (Sindh), N. Mukherjee (Bengal)
Backs: Mohammad Hussain (Manavdar), P. Das (Bengal), Rashid Ahmad (Punjab)
Half-Backs: E. Nestor (Bengal), M. N. Masood (Manavdar), M. J. Gopalan (Madras), Mohammad Naim (Punjab)
Forwards: Shahabuddin (Manavdar), Lourie Davidson (Bengal), Dhyan Chand (Army), Roop Singh (Gwalior), Frank Wells (Bengal), P. P. Fernandes (Sindh), Harbail Singh (Punjab)

India played a total of **48** matches on this tour, with **28** in New Zealand and the remainder in India, Ceylon and Australia. In these 48 matches, India scored 584 goals with only 40 goals against us. It was a grand tour inasmuch as India won all the 48 matches that it played, of which Dhyan Chand played in 43 matches, and scored **201** goals. Mind you, on the rain-sodden uneven grounds in New Zealand and Australia, it was no joke to score goals. The grounds in New Zealand were a severe handicap to India's style of play. A through pass or dash or sprint down the line were

not easy to do. Most of the time the Indian players had to resort to scoops because of the muddy surface of the grounds.

In 1926, there was talk of the Indian army sending a hockey team to tour New Zealand. It was not in Dhyan Chand's nature to plead for his inclusion in the team. He felt his merit as a player would decide his selection. Being in the 'Other Ranks', he could not approach his officers to discuss the matter.

Thus, he was overjoyed when the commanding officer of his regiment told him one day, "Boy, you are going to New Zealand." Though dumbfounded, Dhyan Chand managed to salute the officer. Later, overwhelmed at this opportunity, he broke down in his barracks. Tears of joy also came to the eyes of Bhole Tiwari when he learnt that Dhyan Chand's perseverance had finally paid off.

Due to lack of money, Dhyan Chand could not obtain good clothes for the tour. His main personal outfit was his military kit.

In April 1926, the Indian army hockey team set off by ship from Colombo. After 20 - 25 days on water, the team reached New Zealand in early May.

This was the first team to represent India abroad in any sport. Thus the players were conscious of the fact that they had to project a good image.

Dhyan Chand was hugely successful on this tour. In one match at Dannkerke, India scored 20 goals out of which Dhyan Chand was responsible for 10 goals. Against the New Zealand national team, India won the first match 5-2, but lost the next 3-4.

Overall, India played 21 matches, won 18, drew 2, and lost 1. The Indians scored 192 goals while conceding only 24 goals. Dhyan Chand scored over 100 goals and became a popular player.

Indeed, such was his impact that two women followed the Indian team from New Plymouth to Auckland only to see Dhyan Chand in action. The told him that they could never forget his dribbling.

The Indian team was feted and honoured with feasts and lavish dinners. The treatment that Dhyan Chand and the rest of his army mates got was that of heroes.

News of Dhyan Chand's exploits reached India as the local newspapers carried reports of the Indian team's progress. Dhyan Chand got promoted to Lance Nayak on his return to India. The success in New Zealand gave Dhyan Chand tremendous inspiration, and he felt there should be no slackness on his part.

This 1926 Army tour started India's hockey story, and with it, Dhyan Chand's legendary prowess.

Nearly half a century later, when Dhyan Chand's son Ashok Kumar visited New Zealand, he was surprised to see pictures in many hockey clubs of his father's 1926 Army tour.

On one occasion, a Dhyan Chand fan showed Ashok the cuttings on the hockey wizard that he had collected and kept safely all these years.

Ashok had another touching experience. A man came up to him and showed some wooden splinters that he had kept from Dhyan Chand's hockey stick. During a match in the 1926 army tour, Dhyan Chand's stick had broken and the maestro threw it away. The fans had made a dash for it, and many people took away broken splinters.

Indian Team in Australia:

The wide amount of respect which the hockey legend garnered, stretched beyond the confines of the Indian territory and people from across the globe looked upon Major Dhyan Chand. One such celebrated global personality who rated Dhyan Chand highly is the talismanic late batsman from Australia, Sir Donald Bradman. The duo had met when the Indian hockey team had toured Australia ahead of the 1932 Berlin Olympics.

The hockey team flexed their dominant muscles in Australia as they trounced the home team 11-2, after trailing 2-3. Major Dhyan Chand netted 6 goals and pure wizardry was on display. Now while the team were in Adelaide at The Adelaide Oval, Sir Don Bradman came to greet the hockey players, upon a request by Dhyan Chand himself.

There was also a match scheduled at The Adelaide Oval, and Dhyan Chand wanted to meet Don Bradman. He approached Gupta, Assistant Manager of the side. Gupta, in turn, asked Sir Jonathan Cain, Lord Mayor of Adelaide, whether Bradman could be at the ground during the match.

Before that, however, Bradman visited the Adelaide Town Hall and was photographed with the Indian team. He was generous in praise of the Indian hockey team: "I am particularly glad to welcome the Indian players as they are better exponents of the game of hockey than we are. We will have the opportunity of learning something from them. I hope that this visit will be the forerunner of a visit from an Indian cricket team".

Behram Doctor, Manager of the Indian team, then said: We stand at the top of the ladder in hockey, and you stand at the top of the ladder in

cricket. We are very glad that in Adelaide the wizard of hockey, our captain, Dhyan Chand, should meet the wizard of cricket, Don Bradman.

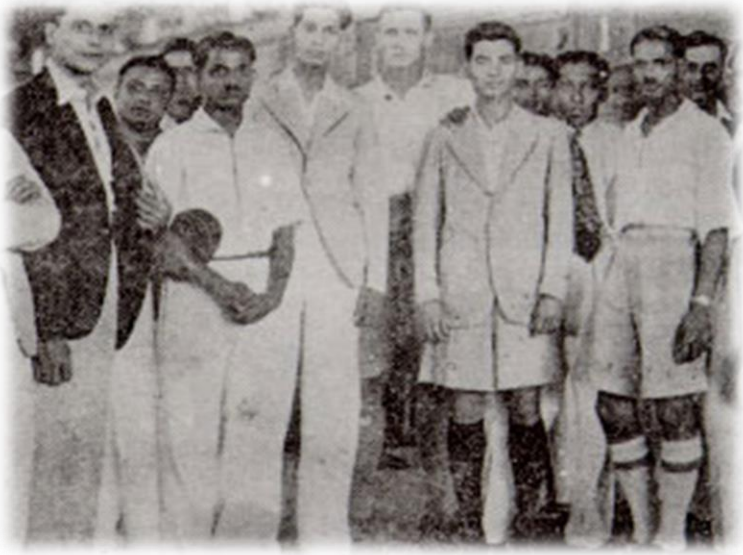
Adelaide News mentioned that amid applause, Bradman and Chand, who were sitting near one another, rose and shook hands.

The Don had never been to a hockey match before, and was taken aback by the Hockey Houdini s on-field surreal sorcery. He went up to Chand and complimented him with the famous words: You score goals like runs in cricket. He had a reason to be impressed, for India thrashed South Australia 10-1 (they led 7-0 in the first half). Dhyan Chand scored twice, including the first goal.

It was the very first time, Bradman witnessed a hockey game and was stunned and astonished to the core upon looking at the extremely talented Indians. He lavished praises on the Indian team.

"I am particularly glad to welcome the Indian players as they are better exponents of the game of hockey than we are," the prolific batsman added. "We will have the opportunity of learning something from them. I hope that this visit will be the forerunner of a visit from an Indian cricket team," said Don Bradman, who finished his Test career with an average of 99.94.

The legendary Australian batsman also met Major Dhyan Chand and was mighty impressed with his fabulous performance in the game where the score-line was 10-1 and where Dhyan Chand scored 2 goals. He famously said the words, "You score goals like runs in cricket," to Dhyan Chand after being left in awe of his skills.



Indian Hockey Squad announced for New Zealand Tour [2015]

Hockey India on Wednesday announced the Indian hockey squad for the upcoming New Zealand tour which is scheduled from 2 – 11 October 2015.

East African Tour

Indian Team on the East African Tour

In 1947, the Indian Hockey Federation (IHF) got a request from the Asian Sports Association of East Africa to send India's best hockey team on a tour. They insisted that Dhyan Chand had to be on the team, as the Indians settled in East Africa wanted to see the Wizard in action.

Under the captaincy of Dhyan Chand, the Indian team set sail for East Africa on December 6. Eight days later, it docked in the Kenyan port of Mombasa.

India played 28 matches on the tour, winning all of them. Even at the age of 43, Dhyan Chand's game was splendid. He scored an amazing 61 goals in just 22 matches.

While on tour, news of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination on January 30, 1948, reached East Africa, shocking the team and the rest of the world.

The team that Dhyan Chand captained to East Africa contained the nucleus of the squad that represented India in the 1948 Olympics. In the London Olympiad, independent India would go on to beat Holland 2-1 in the semi-final and Great Britain 4-0 in the final to retain its gold medal. The newly created country of Pakistan would emerge fourth on its debut.

When Dhyan Chand brought the young Indian team back from East Africa in 1948, he was sad to see that there was no one to greet them. The IHF did not even hold an official reception for the team. Dhyan Chand felt that such actions would affect the morale of the young players.

In September 1948, Dhyan Chand played against the victorious Indian Olympic team after their return from London. By this time, Dhyan Chand had been promoted to the rank of Captain. Dhyan Chand was happy that he received this rank in Free India.

Later, as the manager of the Indian XI, Dhyan Chand would visit Kenya again in 1963-64, after Kenya had attained its independence.

Please visit to know how Sikhs dominated the Hockey Team in different countries

(a) http://www.sikhsinhockey.com/Default.aspx?id=661585

(b) http://www.sikhsinhockey.com/Default.aspx?site=Sikhsinhockey2

Kenyan Legend recalls glory days

(NEWS : 19 October 2017)

Avtar Singh Sohal led his team at the 1971 Barcelona Hockey World Cup

"After watching magician Dhyan Chand in a match, I developed a keen interest in hockey. His dribbling and dodging were out of this world."
<<< Avtar Singh Sohal, Kenya

When you think of hockey powerhouses in the 21st century, you tend to think Netherlands, Argentina, Australia and India; however, back in the 1960s, one of the top teams in the world was the East African nation of Kenya.

Kenya appeared at every Olympic Games from 1956 until 1972, with two further appearance in 1984 and 1988. The team's best finish was sixth in 1964.

Captain of the Kenyan team in 1964, 1968 and 1972 was Avtar Singh Sohal, now 78 years old but as devoted to the game as he always has been. Sohal is revered in his adopted country of India, where he is known as 'Tari', and has been described by journalists and hockey fans as the greatest Indian sportsperson of all time outside India.

The Indian hockey family's devotion to Sohal is mirrored by the Olympian's love for his adopted country. "I came here [to India] with the Kenyan side in 1962 for the first time to play test matches against the Indian side," says Sohal. "When I reached the Bombay airport, I touched the pious soil of India. That feeling cannot be described in words."

Sohal played for Kenya 167 times between 1957 and 1972, competing in four Olympic Games. While he was intensely proud of Kenya's performances at those Olympic Games, the thing that still sticks in his mind was the terror attack at the 1972 Munich Olympics, when 11 Israeli athletes were killed, along with a German police officer. Even now, the memory can bring tears to the eyes of this compassionate man.

One of Sohal's best memories however is associated with the 1971 World Cup, where the team came close to securing a bronze medal, eventually losing 2-1 to India. Kenya's goal in that match was scored by none other than Sohal.

It was inspiration from another Indian hockey icon that first caused Sohal to pick up a hockey stick rather than a cricket bat. Sohal explains: "I still remember when the Indian hockey side came to Kenya in 1948 under the captaincy of Dhyan Chand. Those were exciting times. After watching magician Dhyan Chand in a match, I developed a keen interest in hockey. His dribbling and dodging were out of this world. My father had also encouraged me to play hockey rather than cricket."

A Sikh himself, Avtar Singh Sohal says that it was people from India, especially Sikhs, who introduced hockey to Kenya. Mahan Singh was elected President of the Kenya Hockey Union in 1957 and the Sikh Union Club of Nairobi was the backbone of the Kenya national hockey team. The Sikh Union Club supplied the majority of players in the national team and won most of the domestic trophies in the 1950s, 60s and 70s.

After Sohal retired from the international scene, he took up coaching and was the Kenyan national coach from 1978-88, coaching the team at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. He also took up umpiring and was awarded an FIH International Umpires badge in 1980. Sohal was a judge at the 1988 Seoul Olympics and was appointed to the FIH Development and Coaching Committee in 1988. With his love for the game undimmed, Sohal was a keen spectator at the Rio Olympic Games, cheering on India in the absence of his home country.

"I cheer for the Indian side when they play against any other side except Kenya," he says with a smile.

Despite less involvement in the sport on a day to day basis, Sohal still plays a key role in the International Hockey Federation's (FIH) 10-year Hockey Revolution strategy. Role models from past and present have a crucial role to play in helping hockey become a global game that inspires the next generation - the main aim of FIHs strategy.

****

Sikh Union Club Nairobi 1970.

Sikhs in Hockey in Kenya

Sikhs have been living in Kenya well before the Uganda Railway line reached Nairobi in 1896.

The Kenya Asian Sports Association, which was founded on 4 August 1912, organised sport in the country and records show that Sikhs have been playing hockey in Kenya since the early 1920s.

The visits of hockey teams from South Africa in 1937 and from India in 1947 brought to a head the need for a central governing body to look after and regulate the affairs of hockey throughout the Colony and resulted in the formation of the Kenya Hockey Union in Nairobi on the 2nd June, 1949.

Sir Godfrey Rhodes was elected as its first Chairman and Mahan Singh as Secretary. Kenya's first official international match was played against India in 1951, which was won by India 6 goals to 2.

During their tour of 1947 India played against Mombasa Combined at Mombasa, Asian Sports Association at Nairobi, Kenya Hockey Association at Nairobi, Nairobi Combined at Nairobi, Asian Combined at Nakuru, European Combined at Nakuru, Kisumu Combined at Kisumu, Eldoret Combined at Eldoret and Kitale Combined at Kitale.

Mahan Singh, who was the President of the Asian Sports Association of East Africa, and who was responsible for arranging India's visit to Kenya in 1947, was elected President of the Kenya Hockey Union in 1957.

The backbone of the Kenya National Team has been the Sikh Union Club Nairobi. The Club which started as Khalsa Union in 1920 and became Sikh Union in 1926 fielded majority of players in the National team and won most of the domestic trophies in 1950s, 60s and 70s.

Sikhs have represented Kenya at Olympic Games, World Cups, East African Championships and Africa Cup of Nations.

Sikhs have been Managers, Coaches, Umpires and Captains of the National team. On the administrative front, Sikhs have played an active part running the national hockey and have been part of the Continental and International hockey Federation.

Surjeet Singh Deol (senior) captained the Kenya team to her first ever Olympic participation in Melbourne 1956. The team which was coached by Mahan Singh included eight Sikh players. He was succeeded by Avtar Singh Sohal who represented Kenya at four Olympic Games and captained three of them. Sikhs have been part of every Kenya Olympic Hockey Team since then.

Hardial Singh Kular rose to become a Vice President of International Hockey Federation and President of African Hockey Federation.

[a] For more information about hockey in Kenya, visit the
Kenya Hockey Union Facebook page.

[b] For more information about hockey in India, visit
Hockey India's website.

National Sports Day

India celebrates National Sports Day on 29th August to commemorate the birth anniversary of hockey legend, Major Dhyan Chand. The day is also dedicated to the nations' sports heroes and champions, honoring their contribution and dedication towards bringing laurels to the country. With the aim to raise awareness about the values of sports: discipline, perseverance, sportsman spirit, teamwork, and to encourage public in large to take up sports and make it an integral part of their lives while emphasizing on the importance of being fit and healthy.

Officially declared in 2012, National Sports Day is celebrated in India on August 29, the birth anniversary of hockey hero Major Dhyan Chand. Dhyan Chand, a legend in Indian and international hockey, won many victories at the Summer Olympics in 1928, 1932, and 1936. He was instrumental in helping India complete its first hat-trick of Olympic gold medals.

Major Dhyan Chand (**29 August 1905** - **3 December 1979**) was an Indian Hockey Player. Also Known as **The Wizard or The Magician** of hockey. National Sports Day is celebrated on Dhyan Chand's birthday on 29 August to honor the hockey legend.

Early Life

He was born on 29 August 1905, in Uttar Pradesh, India. His father Sameshwar Singh was enlisted in the British Indian Army, and he played hockey for the army. His family moved to Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, India. He studied at Aligarh Muslim University**,** Aligarh, and in 1932, completed his Graduation from Victoria College, Gwalior. At the age of 16, he joined Indian Army and exclusively played army hockey tournaments and regimental games.

In 1926, he was selected for the Indian Army hockey team for the New Zealand tour. Dhyan Chand performed very well and dominated 18 matches out of 21 with his team. In 1928, he won a gold medal at the Olympic event held in Amsterdam. His speed and accuracy made him "**The Wizard**" of hockey. After that, he repeated the victory again at the 1932 Olympics Games, defeating the USA by 24-1 and Japan by 11-1, and thus again won a gold medal at the event.

In 1933, his home team, the Jhansi Heroes, participated and won the **Beighton Cup,** which he considered the most prestigious of Indian hockey tournaments.

In 1934, The Indian Hockey Federation decided to send a team to New Zealand, Chand and his brother were selected immediately. And Dhyan Chand was appointed as Captain. On the tour, they played 48 matches, 28 in New Zealand and remaining in India, Sri Lanka, and Australia. And India won each match of the tour scoring 584 goals total, and Dhyan Chand scored 201 goals in 23 matches.

Adolf Hitler was so amazed by his skills that he offered him the post of Colonel in the German Army after watching his tremendous performance at the 1936 Berlin Olympics.

Dhyan Chand is one of the most successful captains of the Indian Hockey team. After his third consecutive win at the Olympics, He played a vital role in the incredible victory of team India during an International tour, conquering 34 matches out of 37 with a contribution of 133 goals out of 338, scored by the team.

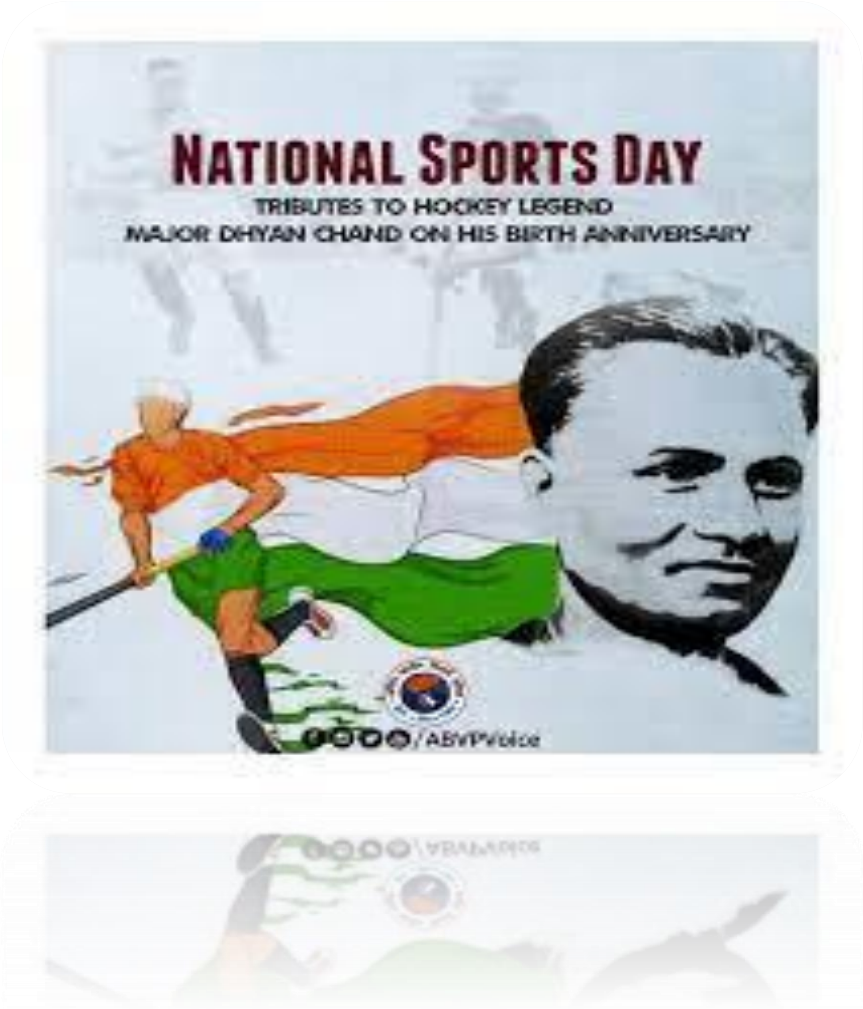
He played international games from 1926 to 1949, where he scored 570 goals, in 183 matches, and over 1000 goals in his entire domestic and international career.

Awards

In 1956, he was honored with **"Padma Bhushan",** the third highest civilian award in India.

Death

He died on 3 December 1979, in New Delhi, India.


NATIONAL SPORTS DAY
TRIBUTES TO HOCKEY LEGEND
MAJOR DHYAN CHAND ON HIS BIRTH ANNIVERSARY
/ABVPVoice

PROUD TO BE AN INDIAN
Motivational Video in हिंदी
National
Sports Day
Birth Anniversary of
MAJOR DHYAN CHAND
(29 August 1905 – 3 December 1979)
By - Shikhar Prajapati
(International Motivational Speaker & Corporate Trainer)
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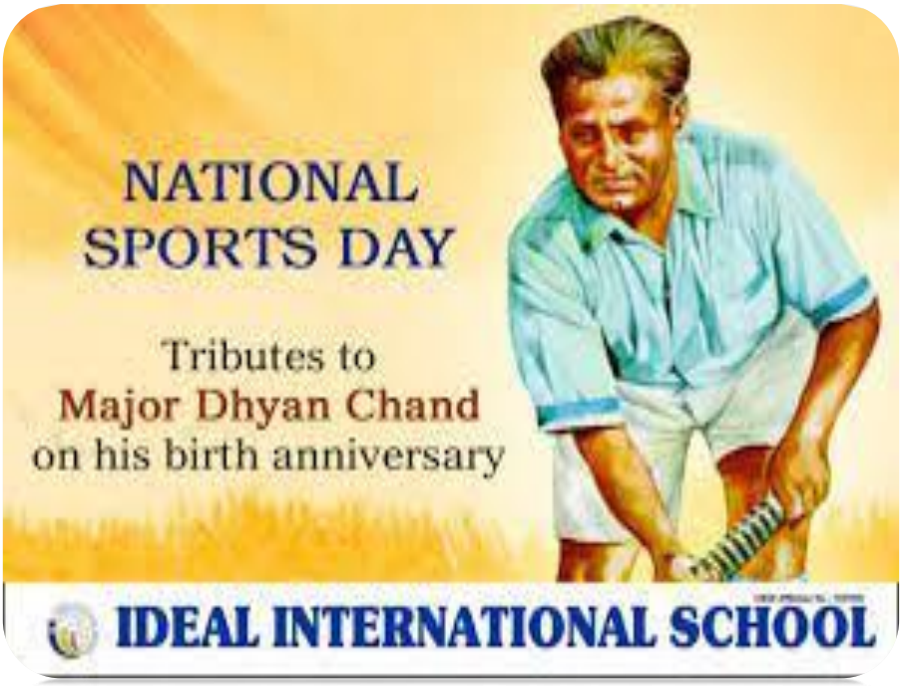
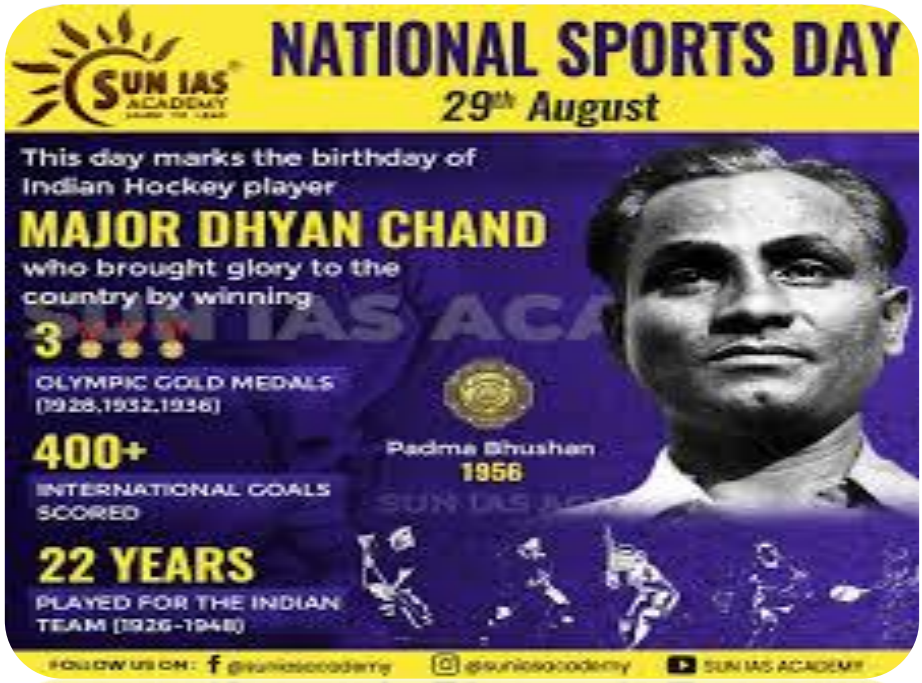
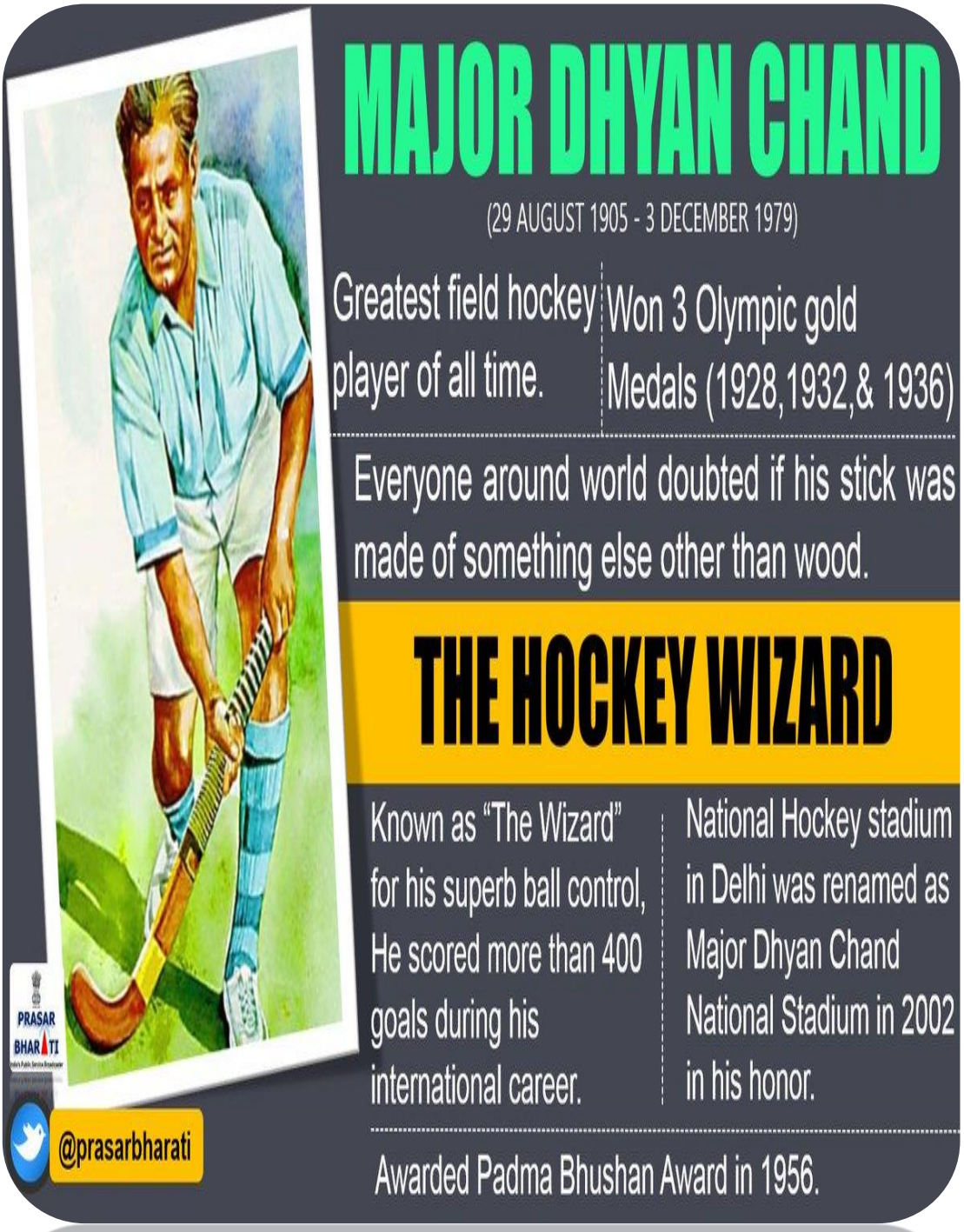

NATIONAL
SPORTS DAY
Tributes to
Major Dhyan Chand
on his birth anniversary
IDEAL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL


SUN IAS ACADEMY
NATIONAL SPORTS DAY
29th August
This day marks the birthday of
Indian Hockey player
MAJOR DHYAN CHAND
who brought glory to the
country by winning
3
OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALS
(1928,1932,1936)
400+
INTERNATIONAL GOALS
SCORED
22 YEARS
PLAYED FOR THE INDIAN
TEAM (1926-1948)
Padma Bhushan
1956
FOLLOW US ON: @sunidacademy @sunidacademy SUN IAS ACADEMY


MAJOR DHYAN CHAND
(29 AUGUST 1905 - 3 DECEMBER 1979)
Greatest field hockey player of all time.
Won 3 Olympic gold Medals (1928,1932,& 1936)
Everyone around world doubted if his stick was made of something else other than wood.
THE HOCKEY WIZARD
Known as "The Wizard" for his superb ball control, He scored more than 400 goals during his international career.
National Hockey stadium in Delhi was renamed as Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in 2002 in his honor.
Awarded Padma Bhushan Award in 1956.
PRASAR BHARATI
@prasarbharati

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award will hereby be called Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award: Narendra Modi

PM Modi announced that the Khel Ratna Awards will now be called the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awards.

Following India's record and inspiring show in field hockey at Tokyo 2020, Prime Minister of India

Narendra Modi, on Friday (August 6), obliged the nation's long-standing request of renaming the Khel Ratna Award to Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.

PM Modi tweeted, "I have been getting many requests from citizens across India to name the Khel Ratna Award after Major Dhyan Chand. I thank them for their views. Respecting their sentiment, the Khel Ratna Award will hereby be called the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award! Jai Hind!"

Dhyan Chand, in the pre-Independence era, was India's shining star in field hockey. To date, his achievements are spoken at length by the yesteryear stars and his will, passion, talent and champion mindset are also imbibed to young students for them to excel in any field they choose. As the prestigious Khel Ratna Awards will now be rightly called by his name, here are a list of glaring achievements of the legendary hockey player India have ever produced:

1) Dhyan Chand is known as 'The Wizard', or 'The Magician', for his immaculate ball control.

2) He enrolled himself in the army at the young age of 16, much like his father. Inspiring!

3) Dhyan played various army hockey competitions and regimental games between 1922-1926; making the game his own in a flash.

4) Practicing with the stick during the night after his duty hours, Dhyan earned himself the name of 'Dhyan Chand'. For the unversed, Chand in Hindi means *Moon*.

5) Dhyan Chand made the Indian Army hockey team for their tour of New Zealand in 1926; impressing one and all with his energy and understanding of the game.

6) He made it to the Indian team in 1928 for the Olympics in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

7) Dhyan Chand helped India win three Olympic gold medals in 1928, 1932 and 1936. Talk about single-handed dominance!

8) India won gold in 1936 under Chand's captaincy at the Olympics. Captaincy pressure, what?

9) India won field hockey events in seven out of eight Olympics from 1928-1964 much due to the influence and platform set by the legendary player.

10) The Wizard scored a mammoth 570 goals in 185 matches, as per his autobiography *Goal*.

11) The Govt of India awarded Chand India's third-highest civilian honour of Padma Bhushan in the year 1956. He had also retired from his service at the army in the same year.

12) For the unversed, August 29 is celebrated as National Sports Day in the country on the occasion of his birthday.

13) The national stadium in the Capital, i.e. New Delhi, is also named after him.

14) Now, the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award has also been renamed as the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.

AWARD

The **Khel Ratna Award** officially known as the **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award** is the highest sporting honour of India. It is awarded annually by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.

The recipient(s) is/are selected by a committee constituted by the Ministry and is honoured for their "spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports over a period of four years" at international level. As of 2020, the award comprises a medallion, a certificate, and a cash prize of ₹25 lakh.

Instituted in 1991–1992, the award was given for the performance by a sportsperson in a year. Based on the suggestions provided by 2014 award selection committee, the Ministry revised the criteria in February 2015 to consider the performance over a period of four years. The nominations for a given year are accepted till 30 April or last working day of April with not more than two sportspersons nominated for each sports discipline. A twelve-member committee evaluates the performances of a sportsperson at various international events like Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Asian Games, and Commonwealth Games. The committee later submits their recommendations to the Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports for further approval. The award from 1991-2021 was named after Rajiv Gandhi (1944-1991), former Prime Minister of India.

The award since August 6, 2021 is named after Major Dhyan Chand (1905–79), an Indian field hockey player, widely regarded as one of the greatest field hockey players of all time, who scored more than 1000 goals over a career that spanned over 20 years from 1926 to 1948.

The first recipient of the award was Chess Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand, who was honoured for the performance in the year 1991-92. In 2001, sport shooter Abhinav Bindra, then aged 18, became the youngest recipient of the award.

Usually conferred upon only one sportsperson in a year, a few exceptions have been made (1993–1994, 2002, 2009, 2012, and 2016–2021) when multiple recipients were awarded in a year.

As of 2022, there have been fifty eight recipients from fifteen sport disciplines: Athletics, Badminton, Billiards, Boxing, Chess, Cricket, Field hockey, Gymnastics, Para Athletics, Para-badminton, Para Shooting, Shooting, Snooker, Table Tennis, Tennis, Wrestling, Weightlifting, and Yacht racing.

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award Winners

[For the years 1991 - 2020]

1. Viswanathan Anand Chess 1991
2. Geet Sethi Billiards 1992
3. Homi de Motivala Yachting 1993
4. PK Garg Yatching 1993
5. Karnam Malleswari Weightlifting 1994
6. Kunjurani Devi Weightlifting 1995
7. Leander Paes Lawn Tennis 1996
8. Sachin Tendulkar Cricket 1997
9. Jyotirmoyee Sikandar Athletics 1998
10. Dhanraj Pillai Hockey 1999
11. Pullela Gopichand Badminton 2000
12. Abhinav Bindra Shooting 2001
13. K. M. Binamol, Athletics 2002
14. Anjali Bhagwat Shooting, 2002
15. Anju Bobby George Athletics 2003
16. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore Shooting 2004
17. Pankaj Advani Billiards and Snooker 2005

18. Manavjit Singh Sandhu Shooting 2006
19. Mahendra Singh Dhoni Cricket 2007
[No award for the year 2008]
20 M.C. Marikom, Boxing 2009
21. Vijender Singh, Boxing, 2009
22. Sushil Kumar Wrestling 2009
23. Saina Nehwal Badminton 2010
24. Gagan Narang Shooting 2011
25. Vijay Kumar Shooting 2012
26. Yogeshwar Dutt Wrestling 2012
27. Ranjan Sodhi Shooting 2013
[No award for the year 2014]
28. Sania Mirza Lawn Tennis 2015
29. P. V. Sindhu, Badminton 2016
30. Deepa Kamikar, , Gymnastics, 2016
31. Sakshi Malik Free Wresting 2016
32. Jitu Rai Shooting 2016
33. Devendra Jhajaria Javelin throw 2017
34. Sardar Singh , Hockey 2017
35. Virat Kohli, Cricket 2018
36. Mirabai Chanu Weightlifting 2018
37. Deepa Malik, wrestling, 2019
38. Bajrang Punia Athletics 2019
39. Rohit Sharma Cricketer 2020
40. Mariyappan Thangavelu Paralympic High Jump 2020
41. Manika Batra Table Tennis 2020
42. Vinesh Wrestling 2020
43. Rani Rampal Hockey 2020.

Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award Winners

[Awarded from 2021]

1. Neeraj Chopra Athletics 2021
2. Ravi Kumar Dahiya Freestyle wrestling 2021
3. Lovlina Borgohain Boxing 2021

4. P. R. Sreejesh Hockey 2021
5. Avani Lekhara Paralympic shooting 2021
6. Sumit Antil Para-athletics 2021
7. Pramod Bhagat Para-badminton 2021
8. Krishna Nagar Para-badminton 2021
9. Manish Narwal Paralympic shooting 2021
10. Mithali Raj Cricket 2021
11. Sunil Chhetri Football 2021
12. Manpreet Singh Hockey 2021
13. Sharath Kamal Table Tennis 2022

Players scored more than

100 Goals

The highest international goals scorer in classic field hockey is major Dhyan Chand of British India, he scored 570 goals in 185 international matches. The player who was second highest international goals scorer in hockey & highest goal scorer in modern hockey on artificial turf was Paul Litjens of Netherlands. He scored a total of 267 international goals in 177 matches. He remained highest international goals scorer on artificial turf for 22 years, from 1982 to 2004, until Sohail Abbas of Pakistan broke the record against India at Amritsar in 2004. Abbas became the sixth Pakistani to achieve 100 international goals in his career when he scored a hat-trick against Great Britain at the 2000 Summer Olympics. He scored a record 348 international goals. He also played the fewest matches to score 100 goals.

The first player to score 100 goals on artificial turf for India is Dhanraj Pillay, who scored a total of 170 international goals. Manzoor-ul-Hassan of Pakistan was the first player from Asia to score 100 international goals. The first player outside of Europe and Asia to score 100 international goals was Mark Hager of Australia. To date, eleven players representing Netherlands have scored 100 or more international goals, the most of any country. The European Hockey Federation has the highest number of players who have scored 100 goals in their international career, with 22 players achieving the feat so far.

Here two Lists are provided:

[a] Players who scored more than **100** international goals.

[b] Countries having players with more than **100** goals.

Players who scored more 100 international goals

Rank	Name	Nation	Confederation	International goals	International caps	Career
1	Dhyan Chand	India	Asia	**570**	185	1926–1949
2	Sohail Abbas	Pakistan	Asia	**348**	311	1998-2012
3	Paul Litjens	Netherlands	Europe	**268**	177	1982-2004
4	Balbir Singh Sr.	India	Asia	**246**	61	1947–1958
5	Greg Nicol	South Africa	Africa	**245**	200	1994-2004
6	Jamie Dwyer	Australia	Oceania	**244**	365	2001-2016
7	Jorgi Lombi	Argentina	Americas	**231**	223	1991-2004
8	Björn Michel	Germany	Europe	**229**	307	1993-2004
9	Taeke Taekema	Netherlands	Europe	**221**	242	2000-2011
10	Teun de Nooijer	Netherlands	Europe	**219**	453	1994-2012
11	Floris Jan Bovelander	Netherlands	Europe	**215**	241	1985-1996
12	Mark Hager	Australia	Oceania	**181**	231	1988-1999
13	**Gonzalo Peillat**	Argentina Germany	Americas	**178**	155	2011–*present*
14	Jay Stacy	Australia	Oceania	**172**	321	1988-2000
15	Dhanraj Pillay	India	Asia	**170**	339	1989-2004
16	Ties Kruize	Netherlands	Europe	**167**	202	1972-1986
17	Christopher Zeller	Germany	Europe	**158**	204	2003-2016

Rank	Name	Nation	Confederation	International goals	International caps	Career
18	Carsten Fischer	Germany	Europe	**154**	246	1982-1996
19	Stephen Davies	Australia	Oceania	**151**	274	1989-2000
20	Hassan Sardar	Pakistan	Asia	**150**	148	1979-1987
	Phil Burrows	New Zealand	Oceania	**150**	343	2000-2015
21	Simon Child	New Zealand	Oceania	**142**	274	2005-2016
22	Bram Lomans	Netherlands	Europe	**141**	205	1995-2007
23	**Tom Boon**	Belgium	Europe	**140**	295	2012-*present*
24	Sandeep Singh	India	Asia	**138**	186	2004-2012
25	Ashley Jackson	England Great Britain	Europe	**137**	250	2006-*present*
26	Tahir Zaman	Pakistan	Asia	**134**	252	1987-1998
27	V. R. Raghunath	India	Asia	**132**	228	2005-2017
28	**Pau Quemada**	Spain	Europe	**131**	274	2003-*present*
29	Kamran Ashraf	Pakistan	Asia	**129**	166	1993-2002
30	Hanif Khan	Pakistan	Asia	**127**	177	1976-1985
	Hayden Shaw	New Zealand	Oceania	**127**	178	2002-2011
31	Santi Freixa	Spain	Europe	**126**	193	2000-2014
32	Rupinder Pal Singh	India	Asia	**125**	223	2010-2022
33	**Harmanpreet Singh**	India	Asia	**121**	159	2016-*present*
34	Barry Middleton	England Great Britain	Europe	**119**	432	2003-2018

Rank	Name	Nation	Confederation	International goals	International caps	Career
35	Taco van den Honert	Netherlands	Europe	**118**	215	1987-1996
36	Luke Doerner	Australia	Oceania	**117**	175	2005-2012
37	**Florian Fuchs**	Germany	Europe	**116**	239	2009-*present*
38	Stephan Veen	Netherlands	Europe	**116**	275	1989-2000
39	Chris Ciriello	Australia	Oceania	**115**	195	2008-2017
40	**Jeroen Hertzberger**	Netherlands	Europe	**113**	233	2007-*present*
41	Moritz Fürste	Germany	Europe	**112**	262	2005-2016
42	**Mink van der Weerden**	Netherlands	Europe	**111**	173	2010-*present*
43	Calum Giles	England Great Britain	Europe	**110**	143	1995-2000
	Rehan Butt	Pakistan	Asia	**110**	272	2001-2012
	Jang Jong Hyun	South Korea	Asia	**109**	287	2004-2012
45	**Razie Rahim**	Malaysia	Asia	**107**	281	2006-*present*
46	Gagan Ajit Singh	India	Asia	**108**	157	1997-2007
47	Tom van 't Hek	Netherlands	Europe	**106**	221	1976-1990
48	Muhammad Imran	Pakistan	Asia	**106**	296	
49	Troy Elder	Australia	Oceania	**103**	169	1998-2007
	Shakeel Abbasi	Pakistan	Asia	**103**	309	2003-2014
51	Manzoor-ul-Hassan	Pakistan	Asia	**101**	154	1973-1982

Rank	Name	Nation	Confederation	International goals	International caps	Career
	Matías Paredes	Argentina	Americas	**101**	356	2001-*present*
	Shahbaz Ahmed	Pakistan	Asia	**101**	304	1986-2002
53	Baljit Singh Dhillon	India	Asia	**100**	327	1993-2004

Note: Players in **bold** are still active at international level.

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Countries having players who scored more than 100 international goals

Country	Players
Netherlands	11
Pakistan	10
India	9
Australia	7
Germany	5
Argentina	3
England	
New Zealand	

Country	Players
Spain	2
Belgium	1
Malaysia	
South Africa	
South Korea	
Total	51

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_men%27s_field_hockey_players_with_100_or_more_international_goals

Hockey @ Commonwealth Games

Due to the success of the first 1930 **British Empire Games** in Hamilton, Canada, a meeting of representatives from Great Britain, its dominions, colonies and territories decided that the games, similar to the Olympic Games should be held every four years, and that an authoritative organisation should be formed. Following the 1932 Summer Olympics, it was decided to form the ***"British Empire Games Federation"*** who would be responsible for the organising of the games. The name of the federation was changed in 1952 to the ***"British Empire and Commonwealth Games Federation"***, and again in Jamaica in 1966 to the ***"British Commonwealth Games Federation"***, until eventually being changed again in Christchurch, New Zealand in 1974 to the ***"Commonwealth Games Federation"***.

The **Commonwealth Games Federation** (**CGF** is the international organisation responsible for the direction and control of the Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Youth Games, and is governing body of the Commonwealth Games Associations (CGA). The headquarters of CGF are located in London, England.

CGF General Assembly

The General Assembly is the ultimate governance and authority in the CGF with powers to vote on decisions, including on which cities and Commonwealth Games Association's will host the Commonwealth Games. It consists of 3 or more representatives of a Commonwealth Games Association of each member countries and territories, the Vice-Patron, Life Vice-Presidents and the members of the Executive Board.

Sessions of the General Assembly are chaired by the CGF President, with each CGA and the President having one vote. However, the Vice-Patron, Life Vice-Presidents, the Executive Board, representatives of an Organising Committee (OC) of a Commonwealth Games and observers invited by the President may deliberate but do not have voting powers at the General Assembly.

India @ Commonwealth Games

Commonwealth Games - Medals Table

Total:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Australia (AUS)	11	2	1	14
2	India (IND)	1	4	1	6
3	England (ENG)	1	3	7	11
4	New Zealand (NZL)	1	3	3	7
5	Malaysia (MAS)	0	1	1	2
	Pakistan (PAK)	0	1	1	2
Totals (6 entries)		**14**	**14**	**14**	**42**

Men:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Australia	7	0	0	7
2	India	0	3	0	3
3	New Zealand	0	2	1	3
4	Malaysia	0	1	1	2

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
	Pakistan	0	1	1	2
6	England	0	0	4	4
Totals (6 entries)		**7**	**7**	**7**	**21**

Women:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Australia	4	2	1	7
2	England	1	3	3	7
3	New Zealand	1	1	2	4
4	India	1	1	1	3
Totals (4 entries)		**7**	**7**	**7**	**21**

Team Appearances

Team (Men) Appearances:

Team	1998	2002	2006	2010	2014	2018	2022	Total
Australia	1st	1st	1st	1st	1st	1st	1st	7

Barbados	–	8th	–	–	–	–	–	**1**
Canada	7th	6th	9th	7th	6th	8th	8th	**7**
England	**3rd**	5th	4th	4th	**3rd**	**3rd**	**3rd**	**7**
Ghana	–	–	–	–	–	–	10th	**1**
India	4th	–	6th	**2nd**	**2nd**	4th	**2nd**	**6**
Kenya	10th	–	–	–	–	–	–	**1**
Malaysia	**2nd**	–	**3rd**	8th	7th	5th	WD	**5**
New Zealand	6th	**2nd**	5th	**3rd**	4th	**2nd**	5th	**7**
Pakistan	8th	**3rd**	**2nd**	6th	–	7th	7th	**6**
Scotland	–	–	7th	9th	8th	6th	9th	**5**
South Africa	5th	4th	8th	5th	5th	10th	4th	**7**
Trinidad and Tobago	11th	–	10th	10th	10th	–	–	**4**
Wales	9th	7th	–	–	9th	9th	6th	**5**
Total	**11**	**8**	**10**	**10**	**10**	**10**	**10**	

Team (Women) Appearances:

Team	1998	2002	2006	2010	2014	2018	2022	Total
Australia	1st	3rd	1st	1st	1st	2nd	2nd	7
Barbados	–	–	9th	–	–	–	–	1
Canada	10th	7th	7th	6th	8th	5th	5th	7
England	2nd	2nd	3rd	3rd	2nd	3rd	1st	7
Ghana	–	–	–	–	–	10th	10th	2
India	4th	1st	2nd	5th	5th	4th	3rd	7
Jamaica	8th	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Malaysia	6th	8th	5th	10th	7th	8th	WD	6
Kenya	–	–	–	–	–	–	9th	1
Namibia	12th	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Nigeria	–	–	10th	–	–	–	–	1
New Zealand	3rd	4th	4th	2nd	3rd	1st	4th	7
South Africa	9th	5th	8th	4th	4th	6th	7th	7
Scotland	5th	6th	6th	7th	6th	7th	6th	7

Trinidad and Tobago	7th	–	–	9th	10th	–	–	**3**
Wales	11th	–	–	8th	9th	9th	8th	**5**
Total	**12**	**8**	**10**	**10**	**10**	**10**	**10**	

Indian Hockey Team [Women]

CWG 2022: Savita stars as Indian women win hockey medal after 16 years

Indian Women Players celebrate winning **BRONZE.**

CWG 2002: Mamta Kharab scored the **GOLDEN GOAL** in the Women's Field Hockey Final against England in August 2002 at the Commonwealth Games in Manchester. India won gold after a 3-2 win.

India participated in the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester. Notable among the players was the Indian women's hockey team. The team entered the finals after defeating the Australian women's national field hockey team. They went on to receive the Gold after winning the final game against the English women's hockey team. This win also marked a comeback for Mir Ranjan Negi who coached the team. Negi's involvement and the Gold inspired the successful 2007 Shahrukh Khan film about women's field hockey, *Chak De India.*

Hockey @ Asian Games [Asiad]

The Asian Games, also known as Asiad, is a continental multi-sport event held every four years among athletes from all over Asia.

The first edition of the Asian Games was held in New Delhi in 1951.

The Games were officially opened by Indian President Rajendra Prasad at the Dhyan Chand National Stadium.

A total of 489 athletes from 11 National Olympic Committees competed in 12 sports.

Japan topped the medal table with 24 gold, 21 silver and 15 bronze medals.

A total of 169 medals were awarded.

INDIAN HOCKEY TEAM (MEN) @ ASIAN GAMES

India ended the 2022 Asia Cup with a bronze medal.

Indian Hockey [Men] in Asian Games

Year	Venue	Position
2022	Jakarta	Bronze
2018	Jakarta	Bronze
2014	Incheon	Gold
2010	Guangzhou	Bronze
2006	Doha	5th
2002	Busan	Silver
1998	Bangkok	Gold
1994	Hiroshima	Silver
1990	Beijing	Silver
1986	Seoul	Bronze
1982	New Delhi	Silver
1978	Bangkok	Silver
1974	Tehran	Silver
1970	Bangkok	Silver
1966	Bangkok	Gold
1962	Jakarta	Silver
1958	New Delhi	Silver

Asian Games - Medals Table

Total:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	South Korea (KOR)	9	4	2	15
2	Pakistan (PAK)	8	3	3	14
3	India (IND)	4	11	6	21
4	China (CHN)	3	3	3	9
5	Japan (JPN)	2	3	5	10
6	Malaysia (MAS)	0	2	7	9
Totals (6 entries)		**26**	**26**	**26**	**78**

Men:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Pakistan	8	3	3	14
2	South Korea	4	1	2	7
3	India	3	9	3	15

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
4	Japan	1	0	2	3
5	Malaysia	0	2	6	8
6	China	0	1	0	1
Totals (6 entries)		**16**	**16**	**16**	**48**

Women:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	South Korea	5	3	0	8
2	China	3	2	3	8
3	Japan	1	3	3	7
4	India	1	2	3	6
5	Malaysia	0	0	1	1
Totals (5 entries)		**10**	**10**	**10**	**30**

1966 @ Bangkok : Winning GOLD Medal

India won its first gold medal by defeating the two-time defending champions Pakistan 1–0 after extra time in the final.

Indian Hockey Team [Men] @ 1966 Asian Games

1998 @ Bangkok : Winning GOLD Medal

India finished as all conquering heroes, winning the Bangkok Asian games hockey gold medal for the second time only after beating South Korea 5-3 on penalties in a memorable final.

Members of the Indian hockey team, with Dhanraj Pillay holding the national flag, on the podium after their victory over South Korea in the men's final of the 1998 Asian Games in Bangkok.

Indian Team - 1998

Dhanraj Pillay (Bombay—**Captain**),
Ashish Ballal (Indian Airlines),
AB Subbiah (Indian Airlines),
Dilip Tirkey (Indian Airlines),
Anil Aldrin (Bombay),
Lazarus Barla (Indian Airlines),
Baljit Singh Saini (Punjab & Sind Bank),
Sandeep Somesh (Karnataka),
Mohammed Riaz (Tamil Nadu),
Ramandeep Singh (Punjab),
Thirumaivalavan (Tamil Nadu),
Mukesh Kumar (Indian Airlines),
Sabu Varkey (Karnataka),
Baljit Singh Dhillon (Punjab),
Sameer Dad (IA) and
L. Prabhakaran (Tamil Nadu).

Note: None of the 16 players in the Indian team was even born when India won the Asian Games Hockey Gold for the first time in 1966.

2014 @ Incheon : Winning GOLD Medal

Indian players celebrate after defeating Pakistan during the men's hockey gold medal match on day thirteen of the 2014 Asian Games between India and Pakistan at Seonhak Hocky Stadium on 2 Oct 2014 in Incheon, South Korea.

Indian Hockey Team [Men]

Manpreet Singh (Captain)
Rupinder Pal Singh
Kothajit Singh
Sardara Singh
Dharamvir Singh
V. R. Raghunath
Gurbaj Singh
P. R. Sreejesh
Danish Mujtaba
Gurwinder Singh Chandi
S. V. Sunil
Birendra Lakra
Akashdeep Singh
Chinglensana Singh
Ramandeep Singh
Nikkin Thimmaiah

National Sports Day

29 AUGUST

This day marks the birthday of
Indian Hockey player

MAJOR DHYAN CHAND

who brought glory to the
country by winning

3 OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALS

PROUD TO BE AN INDIAN

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Ranked as the best team in Asia